



NEPAL

2024 IFRC network country plan

9 April 2024

Funding Requirement **CHF 17.3M**

In support of the Nepal Red Cross Society



77

National Society branches



321

National Society staff



146,524

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



50,000

Ongoing
emergency
operations



400,000

Climate and
environment



200,000

Disasters
and crises



600,000

Health and
wellbeing



20,000

Migration and
displacement



120,000

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

- Karnali earthquake response
- Monsoon floods

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk reduction and resilience
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Health and wellbeing
- Migration and displacement

Capacity development

- Legal frameworks • Governance
- Branch development • Internal systems strengthening • Financial sustainability
- Humanitarian diplomacy

Key country data

Population **30.5M**

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Medium**

Human Development Index rank **143**

Population below poverty level **25.2%**

IFRC Country Delegation Nepal, Kathmandu

Hazards



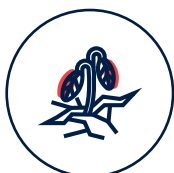
Floods



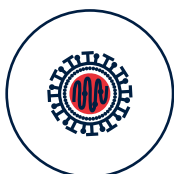
Earthquakes



Landslides



Drought



Diseases



Migration

Funding requirements

Total 17.3M CHF

Through the IFRC

8.1M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

7.6M CHF

Through Host National Society

→ **1.6M** CHF

IFRC Breakdown

5M CHF

Ongoing emergency

Longer term needs

350,000 CHF

Climate and environment

1.2M CHF

Disasters and crises

540,000 CHF

Health and wellbeing

100,000 CHF

Migration and displacement

950,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

Australian Red Cross*

Austrian Red Cross*

British Red Cross

The Canadian Red Cross Society

Red Cross Society of China*

Danish Red Cross

Finnish Red Cross

Irish Red Cross Society

Italian Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society*

The Republic of Korea National Red Cross

Luxembourg Red Cross

New Zealand Red Cross*

Norwegian Red Cross*

Qatar Red Crescent Society

Swiss Red Cross

**National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2023.*

IFRC Appeal codes

Ongoing emergency response:

MDRNP016

Longer-term needs:

MAANP001

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Nepal Red Cross Society** was established in 1963 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1964. The National Society is recognized as a voluntary, autonomous relief society and auxiliary to the authorities in its humanitarian activities. In line with its auxiliary role, the Nepal Red Cross Society coordinates closely with public authorities for disaster management and health and works with Government-led relevant platforms and mechanisms at provincial and local levels.

The Nepal Red Cross Society provides a range of essential services, including first aid, blood transfusion service, ambulance and other emergency and non-emergency support, operating through its 77 district chapters and over 1,500 sub-chapters. Students and youth volunteers comprise a large proportion of the organization and they regularly engage with the National Society through the Nepal Junior and Youth Red Cross Circles active in schools, campuses and communities throughout the country.

Currently, the Nepal Red Cross Society is implementing its Strategic Plan 2021-2025 (8th development plan 2021-2025) which sets out the direction for establishing itself as one of Nepal's largest and most prominent humanitarian organizations. Additionally, the National Society is guided by its National Society development plan, which outlines strategies for the Nepal Red Cross Society's growth and impact in the coming years. The plan sets four strategic directions: 1. Governance and organizational development 2. Disaster and crisis management 3. Health and community care 4. Humanitarian principles, values, international laws and diplomacy.

In 2022, the Nepal Red Cross Society reached more than 1.1 million people through its long-term services and development programmes and more than 2 million people through its disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

With a population of approximately 30.5 million, Nepal is a culturally diverse nation, encompassing a rich tapestry of ethnicities, cultures, languages, and beliefs. It is experiencing rapid urban growth, ranking among the fastest in South Asia, aligning with the Government's vision to attain middle-income status by 2030. Over 2 million Nepalis are living and working abroad, which is steadily increasing each year and impacting the decline of rural population in the country.

As per the Human Development Index report of 2022, Nepal is ranked 143 out of 189 countries, with great disparities in human development. The caste system, despite its official abolition in 1962, still holds considerable influence, perpetuating inequality across social, political, and economic spheres. Despite the provision of constitutional and legal rights, factors such as power relation, ethnicity, physical access, and digital divide are still barriers for equitable economic development, particularly for women.

Nepal's economy is gradually recovering from the COVID-19 crisis, with GDP growth estimated to moderate to 4.1 per cent

in 2023, down from the previous year's estimated growth of 5.8 per cent. Factors such as wider access to vaccines as well as a normalization in economic activities in absence of restriction, in particular in the critical areas of tourism, agriculture and remittances which are drivers of the economy have aided in the GDP growth. According to the multi-dimensional poverty index (MPI) of 2021, 4.9 million Nepalis are multi-dimensionally poor which is 17.4 per cent of Nepal's population. The five indicators used for the multi-dimensional poverty index were nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, housing and assets. Out of the five indicators, the years of schooling and nutritional deprivations weighed more in the multi-dimensional poverty survey result. More recently, the country is facing a sharp inflation driven by the global trends of increased energy and transportation costs.

Over the last few years, Nepal has undergone dynamic and unprecedented political and economic transitions following the promulgation of the Constitution in 2015. The country has embraced a new federal structure, establishing a decentralized multi-level political system at central, provincial and local levels. Since the inception of this new governmental framework in early 2018, comprising 77 districts, 7 provinces, and 753 rural/municipalities, Nepal has embarked on a journey aligned with its constitutional principles.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency Operation	Nepal: Karnali Earthquake Emergency Appeal
Appeal number	MDRNP016
Duration	07/11/2023 to 31/12/2024
People affected	250,000
People to be assisted	50,000
Funding requirement	Funding requirement through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 5 million Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 7 M
Link to Emergency Appeal	Nepal Karnali Earthquake Emergency Appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Nepal Karnali Earthquake Operational Strategy
Link to latest Operations Update	Nepal Karnali Earthquake Latest Operations Update

On November 3, 2023, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck Jajarkot district, resulting in widespread destruction of lives and properties. The disaster claimed 154 lives and left hundreds injured across 11 districts, with Jajarkot, Rukum West and Salyan districts being the hardest hit. According to the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), approximately 62,012 families (176,605 people) were affected. Additionally, an estimated 250,000 people were at risk.

This was the largest earthquake to impact Nepal since the 7.3 magnitude earthquake in 2015 and the latest one to hit western Nepal in the past year since November 2022. The impact of the earthquake was expected to be hugely challenging for the most vulnerable in the area, which was already coping with low socioeconomic indicators. Additionally, districts like Jajarkot experience seasonal migration of men to India while the women, children, and elderly are left behind.

Through this Federation-wide Emergency Appeal, the IFRC and member National Societies aim to support the Nepal Red Cross Society in responding to extremely severe effects of Earthquake Karnali. The Nepal Red Cross Society-led operation aims to assist 50,000 people during a one-year time period.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The strategy of the operation is to support the immediate humanitarian needs and recovery of people affected by Karnali earthquake, especially in the regions of Jajarkot and Rukum West. The primary goal of the Nepal Red Cross Society response operation is to meet the urgent needs of around 10,000 families (50,000 people) impacted by the earthquake, particularly in the hardest-hit districts of Rukum West, Salyan and Jajarkot. The targeted individuals will be supported through an integrated approach, aiming to meet shelter, WASH, health, as well as protection interventions. The main pillars of intervention include:

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Shelter, Housing, and Settlements: The National Society distributed tarpaulins and blankets to affected populations in Jajarkot, Rukum West, and Salyan Districts, reaching 26,825 people. Additionally, 14 sets of non-food relief items were distributed to affected families.

The Nepal Red Cross Society also mobilized volunteers to support government shelter programming resulting, about 9,000 families having been supported.

Livelihoods: The National Society aims to provide multi-purpose cash support to 4,172 families to help them address basic needs, especially with winter approaching.

Health & Care: The National Society will support community health services in affected areas, focusing on disease prevention and effective communication at the Palika level.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: The National Society dispatched buckets and hygiene kits to affected areas, with plans for distribution based on detailed assessments. PFA-trained volunteers are delivering health messages, and in addition 600 families have been reached with WASH and shelter support.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion: The National Society distributed 7,677 dignity kits to women and adolescent girls, with ongoing procurement currently taking place. Efforts will include prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and establishment of child-friendly spaces based on needs identified in assessments.

Community Engagement and Accountability: The Nepal Red Cross Society developed public service announcements and engaged volunteers in community assessments and psychosocial support, promoting the Hotline 1130 for feedback and concerns.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Nepal is a climate [hotspot](#) and the country is [warming](#) at the rate of 0.056-degree Celsius per year with higher rates at higher altitudes. Likewise, a precipitation pattern indicates a decreasing trend at varied rates temporally and spatially, while the extreme incidents of precipitations are [increasing](#). These changes exert substantial pressure on communities across mountainous, rural, and swiftly [urbanizing areas](#) of the country, exposing them to a multitude of interconnected climate and [weather risks](#).

The existing understanding of the climate change risks is limited to hazard interactions, emphasizing the domino effect. These cascading risks carry significant biophysical and socio-economic implications, including loss of life, injuries, damage to livelihoods such as properties, lands, businesses, hindered access to health services, income, and erosion of people's hope and confidence, particularly in the absence of external support.

Projections indicate that the economic toll of climate change could amount to an additional 2 to 3 percent loss of [GDP](#) in the future. Humanitarian needs are likely to grow at an extraordinary pace due to climate change, outstripping the resources available for response and recovery efforts.

Climate change is already affecting the environment in Nepal; species ranges are shifting to higher altitudes, glaciers are melting, and the frequency of extreme precipitation is increasing. Natural hazards such as drought, heatwaves, river flooding and glacial lake outburst flooding are all projected to intensify over the coming years, potentially exacerbating disaster risk levels and putting human lives at risk. It is estimated that the number of people annually [affected](#) by river flooding could more than double by 2030 as a consequence of climate change, while the economic impact of river flooding could triple. Environmental degradation resulting from poor land use and land cover planning, uncontrolled urbanization, non-engineering and haphazard road construction, river pollution, poor sanitation facilities, and solid-waste management are aggravating the risks to the population.

To combat climate change impact, Nepal adopted the green, resilient, and inclusive development ([GRID](#)) path in 2021 which identifies a set of ten priority actions including: managing land, water, and forests in a more productive, sustainable, and integrated way for more resilient infrastructure, ecosystems, and food systems; equipping people with new skills and resilient livelihoods; greening urban development; scaling up water supply and sanitation, reducing air pollution and

managing solid waste; scaling up renewable energy; boosting the sustainability and resilience of transport; strengthening disaster risk management; and enhancing social protection and health systems to be more response to shocks.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led, climate-smart, disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, [anticipatory action](#) and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society has recently formulated a [Climate and Environment Policy and Framework](#) that provides policy overview as well as implementation framework. The policy aims to tackle three major challenges posed by the climate change and environmental degradation such as increasing the intensity, frequency and uncertainty of weather and climate-related hazards, shocks, and stresses (which also include epidemic and pandemic risks), ensuring that the most vulnerable people have limited capacity to cope with and adapt to the changing weather and climate patterns, and mitigation measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to prevent global warming and adoption of greening and environment friendly approaches.

Planned activities in 2024

- Initiate youth and volunteer-led community awareness on climate change adaptation with advocacy for addressing policy gaps
- Develop and implement climate checklists in different programmatic areas to support effective implementation of climate actions in programmes
- Train staff and volunteers at district, province, and national levels on climate mainstreaming into programmes and services
- Establish inclusive multi-hazard [early warning system](#) in the communities at risk or connecting the communities to the national flood early warning system

- Implement forecast-based financing and anticipatory actions as well as risk-sensitive social protection
- Promote the concept of green response, both at high-level and also through meetings and workshops, using environment-friendly communications materials
- Implement a nationwide youth-led campaign (THE PARIBARTAK) focusing on climate and environmental issues

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will continue to support the National Society in climate change adaptation. It provides technical and financial support in effective implementation of policy and frameworks, thereby mainstreaming climate change adaptation actions across the Nepal Red Cross Society programmes, operations and services. The focus is on improving community resilience and implementing climate-smart risk reduction strategies, particularly targeting marginalized groups most affected by climate change. Adaptation actions consist of a range of measures, including the promotion of renewable energy, integration of nature-based solutions into community programs, preservation and restoration of ecosystems, safeguarding indigenous practices and technologies, development of heatwave action plans, and establishment of early warning systems.

Leveraging the existing positioning of the Nepal Red Cross Society and the IFRC with authorities at all levels covering disaster risk reduction and other local development issues, the National Society and its network of branches and volunteers will address climate change across all the initiatives supported by the IFRC.

Additional support is provided for capacity building, training, integration of local knowledge, and inclusion of climate awareness into community-based programmes. The National Society is assisted in establishing early warning systems for anticipatory action, leveraging relevant climate information from sources such as the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology. Increased engagement with key climate actors at national, provincial, and municipal levels, as well as partnerships with organizations like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Nepal and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) will be taken forward.

The **American Red Cross** supports the National Society's efforts under climate and environment through heatwave management.

The **British Red Cross** supports the National Society's efforts under climate and environment through targeted interventions on nature-based solutions.

The **Danish Red Cross** supports the National Society's anticipatory actions under climate and environment.

The **Finnish Red Cross** supports the National Society's by taking a lead role in early warning systems.



Nepal Red Cross Society volunteers engage with the community in Jajarkot district in February 2024 to identify information needs as part of the Karnali Earthquake emergency operation. (Photo: IFRC)



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page [Nepal](#)

Nepal is a highly disaster-prone country, experiencing earthquakes, floods, landslides, drought, hot and cold waves and vector-borne diseases on a regular basis. The worldwide risk analysis ranks Nepal 61 among the most vulnerable countries in terms of multi-hazard. The INFORM [risk index](#) indicates that Nepal ranks in 65 in terms of hazard and exposure as well as vulnerabilities and 53 in terms of lack of coping capacity.

According to global climate risk index analysed by German Watch in 2019, Nepal is one of the 20 most disaster-prone countries in the world and is ranked 4 in terms of climate change-related disasters. Floods, landslides and epidemics are recurrent disasters in Nepal whereas earthquake is a major risk as the country falls under high seismic zone with several active fault lines. According to past history of [disasters](#), 5,614 events of floods and landslides have claimed 2,148 lives whereas 61,455 houses are damaged, and 80,405 households are affected. Out of 77 districts, 28 districts are highly vulnerable in terms of floods and 21 districts are vulnerable in terms of landslides. The floods and landslides are affecting most vulnerable communities in hills and plains every year whereas there is high risk of [earthquakes](#) which is exacerbated by both the complex geological patterns of the country, the building practices in communities, as well as the remoteness factors and challenges around preparedness across sectors. Weak socio-economic conditions as well as environmental degradation resulting from poor land use planning, uncontrolled urbanization, non-engineering/haphazard construction, river pollution, poor sanitation facilities, and solid-waste management are aggravating further risk and making communities more [vulnerable](#).

In 2023, Nepal was struck by a 6.4 magnitude earthquake which resulted in widespread destruction of lives and properties. The disaster claimed 157 lives and left hundreds injured across 11 districts, with Jajarkot and Rukum West being the hardest hit areas. The earthquake and its aftershocks, numbering up to 300, triggered landslides, affecting transportation and access to remote communities.

In most disaster events, the affected population faces many challenges because of the impact on their houses, food stock, agriculture products, loss of lands and livelihood, damages on water points and sanitation facilities. Shelter assistance, food and livelihood, drinking water, sanitation facilities, basic health services/promotion are major needs of the population immediately after any disasters.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society is mandated by the 2017 [Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act](#) (DRRM) to support authorities at all levels in disaster risk management, while also responding to local and widespread emergencies such as the latest earthquake in the far western part of Nepal. The National Society will aim to reach more community members with risk reduction initiatives and adapt its response mechanisms to evolving risks, as well as leveraging the power of volunteers and youth networks.

The Nepal Red Cross Society has been implementing community-based disaster risk reduction/resilience projects since 1998 and current development plan has targeted for building resilient communities through scaling up risk reduction initiatives, reducing climate and environmental crises, contextualizing response tools and mechanism and strengthening recovery programmes.

The Nepal Red Cross Society will focus on areas such as continuing disaster risk reduction and resilience in existing 17 districts and expand similar projects in additional three districts, strengthen response capacities at all levels and provide immediate relief services to the affected population, promote cash and voucher initiatives, and strengthen the National Society's preparedness initiatives for building resilience and effective response.

The Nepal Red Cross Society will enhance capacity and mechanisms within the National Society for timely assessment, beneficiary targeting, and [needs assessment](#). The National Society will also be assisted in utilizing climate-related information for timely relief distribution during disasters and promoting green practices in line with the Nepal Red Cross Society's climate and environment framework.

Planned activities in 2024

- Support vulnerable communities in 20 districts to enhance their resilience in multi-hazard perspective
- Promote community-led risk assessment and risk awareness and develop inclusive risk reduction programmes and plans linking with local government development planning process
- Promote local early warning system, linking with national MHEWS and early warning for all initiatives (EW4A)
- Design and implement environment friendly prevention and mitigation activities in vulnerable communities
- Ensure timely assessment for multi-hazard events in times of disasters

- Conduct post-disaster assessments and identify targeted beneficiaries within stipulated timeframe outlined in the response manual
- Support displaced population to establish their emergency shelters by managing shelters in pre-identified locations and providing shelter relief items
- Provide ready-to-eat food for affected population immediate after disaster
- Provide unconditional multi-purpose cash for targeted population for shelter construction, WASH facilities, health, and protection, gender and inclusion

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society to enhance emergency operations coordination function. Support is provided to develop necessary plans, policy, strategy, guidelines as well as standardization of training packages. The IFRC will work closely with Nepal Red Cross Society to continue and scale up the development of [Early Action Protocols](#) (for heat wave and floodings), also taking support from the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#) as relevant. The IFRC team will work closely with Nepal Red Cross Society to enhance information management system, digitization, effective database management linking with the Global Crisis Data Bank initiatives.

The IFRC, along with the National Society, will continue its engagement on Disaster Risk Management policy dialogue in coordination with Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) and other platform partners. It will continue its engagement in Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance Programme and support MoFAGA and local municipalities to roll out the Municipal Disaster Risk Governance Assessment Tool and support local municipalities to develop and implement their capacity enhancement plan for disaster risk management. The IFRC as a part of the [Sajag Nepal](#) will work with academia and research institutions to bridge science, policy and practices to enhance community resilience and humanitarian support.

The IFRC supports the National Society in implementing community based DRR/resilient projects in various districts and the projects have significantly supported most vulnerable communities to strengthen their resilience and coping capacities. The IFRC will continue to provide technical support

to the Nepal Red Cross Society for developing necessary plans, policies, strategies for community-based resilience programming.

The IFRC has already initiated collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) and United Nations Residence Coordination Office in Nepal for EW4ALL initiative. It will continue its joint actions to finalize and implement the National Work Plan. The Anticipatory Action Community of Practice (CoP), a coordination mechanism in the leadership of the Government of Nepal with Nepal Red Cross Society as co-chair and supported by Danish Red Cross will be strengthened through more engaging dialogue programmes at Federal and Provincial levels.

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2023, IFRC provided DREF allocations for an emergency in Nepal. The DREF allocation has been described below:

[IFRC-DREF – Nepal Bajhang Earthquake](#): the DREF allocation of CHF 172,176 in October 2023 supported the Nepal Red Cross Society to assist 7,500 people affected by earthquake in the area of Sudurpashchim. The National Society will support the targeted people over a six-month period with assistance such as hygiene promotion and distribution of hygiene kits, distribution of emergency shelter items (blankets, tarpaulins, mattresses, ropes), distribution of dignity kits to 200 women and adolescent girls, conducting child safeguarding risk analysis, among others.

The **American Red Cross** supports the National Society in Nepal to deliver community-based disaster risk reduction in the Sudur Pachim province.

The **Danish Red Cross** and **Finnish Red Cross** work together with the Nepal Red Cross Society on Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS) and the [Early Warning for All](#) (EW4ALL) Initiative led by the Government of Nepal.



The constitution of Nepal has established health and WASH as a fundamental right of every citizen. In addition, the National Health Policy of 2019 seeks to bring government services closer to the people and foster a restructuring of the health system by promoting local level initiatives. It has a strong commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through the Universal Health Coverage. Over the past two decades, Nepal has made substantial progress in health sector. Mortality rates have sharply declined with the all-ages in both sexes; mortality rate decreasing from 1,110 deaths per 100,000 population in 1990 to 611 deaths per 100,000 population in 2017. In 2011, the mortality rates for children under-1 and under-5 were 46 and 54 per 1,000 live births, respectively. By 2022, these rates had drastically dropped to 28 and 33 per thousand live births. However, despite these positive strides, challenges persist, such as, high prevalence of stunting among children younger than five years (25 per cent) and acute malnutrition (8 per cent) in Nepal.

Non-communicable diseases account for around 65 per cent of total annual deaths in Nepal. Mental health remains a neglected area, making up 18 per cent of the current NCD burden. Impact of climate change on health cannot be denied. For instance, vector-borne diseases like malaria, leishmaniasis, and dengue endemic in specific regions of Nepal, have spread to different topographical areas because of climate change. In 2022 alone, Nepal reported more than 50,000 dengue cases, with 2023 following similar trend. Moreover, the emergence of new infectious diseases like COVID-19, scrub typhus, influenza, monkeypox etc. poses a serious threat to public health, compounding the existing burden of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, cholera, dysentery, diarrhea etc. which can increase during disasters.

Nepal currently faces a double burden of disease, as highlighted by the Global Burden of Disease study, with 59 per cent attributed to non-communicable diseases, 31 per cent to communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases, and 10 per cent to injuries. Road traffic accidents have also posed a significant public health concern, with 54,000 recorded accidents between 2014 and 2022, resulting in 19,000 deaths. These data suggest that while Nepal is successfully progressing in communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases, there is increasing burden of non-communicable diseases and injuries in the country.

The country's health system has undoubtedly been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the long-term impacts on health cannot be overlooked. The sporadic measles outbreak in various districts of Nepal in 2023 underscores the need to strengthen basic primary healthcare delivery, including routine immunization services. Current data shows that 52 per cent of the children aged 12-23 months are fully vaccinated according

to the national schedule while 4 per cent have received no vaccinations.

A report published by Department of Water Supply and Sewerage Management (DWSSM) in 2019 shows that only 51.69 per cent people have access to piped water, which is poor if compared with the national commitment made. And, it has claimed that devastating 2015 Nepal Earthquake has badly affected the target reach in water and sanitation.

Vector-borne diseases such as malaria, leishmaniasis and dengue are endemic in certain tropical regions of Nepal and increasingly in the hills as well, including in the populated Kathmandu Valley. This is due to increasing average temperatures and poor urban sanitation practices. Though sporadic, outbreaks of endemic diseases, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis co-infections, and infections combined with drug-resistant microbes have created a serious public health crisis in Nepal. The threat of common communicable diseases such as diarrhoea, dysentery, tuberculosis and cholera remain concerning for people's health, particularly during monsoon period and among groups at risk due to social marginalization and/or limited access to health services.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society in Nepal aims to strengthen its flagship services, including ambulance, first aid, blood transfusion and eye care services. The National Society will focus on improving the quality and scale of care through mobilization of highly trained human resources, infrastructure and equipment, and implementation of global and national quality standards and frameworks.

The major priorities of Nepal Red Cross Society until 2030, as guided by its Health Policy will be to increase advocacy and ensure implementation of community health programmes with special focus on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, adolescent health and nutrition, non-communicable diseases, healthy ageing, climate health, community surveillance and mental health.

The National Society will support national and local government to deliver primary health care services, engaging in local level planning processes and supporting community awareness and referrals for sexual and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health. This will include strengthened routine immunization, ante-natal and post-natal care and safe institutional delivery, and maternal and childhood nutrition.

The Nepal Red Cross Society will continue to position itself in the health arena in contributing to meet the targets and current needs on health and WASH through following specific objectives and priorities:

- Ensure support and delivery of quality health service to the vulnerable people and communities in line with national health policy
- Assist the community to access institutional and community health services to most vulnerable people in both developmental and emergency contexts in sustainable way
- Enhance promotive, preventive curative and rehabilitative health services to the community
- Strengthen health service delivery capacity of the Nepal Red Cross Society, government and community to meet the health needs of people
- Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate and environmentally sustainable Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Services

transfusion, voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, prehospital care, maternal newborn and child health

- Deliver effective preventive and promotional community-based health services to address the health of vulnerable population including the elderly, women, child, adolescent and people with disabilities
- Prevent and control the risk of communicable disease through integrated efforts of community, Government, and non-governmental entities
- Continue promoting WASH actions as part of ongoing CBDRR/resilience/integrated programmes
- Generate idea/practices of multi-sectoral partnership on 5R waste management cycle in consideration of environmental cleanliness and income generation

Planned activities in 2024

- Continuous engagement in national forum for health-related policy, strategies/guideline improvement at all levels
- Advocacy to increase the number of partnerships from Government (province and local), bilateral, multilateral organizations including philanthropists, corporate houses for delivering health services
- Capacity building National Society staff and volunteers on competency-based framework and relevant health training packages for quality service delivery
- Upgrade, strengthen, and expand the prehospital care services system with digital networking in line with national ambulance policy
- Upgrade the capacity of quality service on blood transfusion and enhance equal access of community on service across the country
- Build capacity and develop/revise/contextualize tools on community-based health and first aid ([CBHFA](#)), [mental health and psychosocial support](#), first aid, blood

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the National Society's efforts in implementing community-based health and WASH projects in various districts to support the most vulnerable communities. One of the major areas of support would be to strengthen flagship programmes such as Blood Transfusion Services, pre-hospital care including ambulance, First Aid and Eye care as flagship programs in different parts of the country. To position and strengthen the auxiliary role of Nepal Red Cross Society to government, IFRC will continue its technical and financial support for advocacy, coordination and networking.

The IFRC assists the National Society in the construction of drinking water schemes as well as knowledge and behavior change in sanitation and hygiene through appropriate software and hardware interventions. As the water issue is closely connected to gender role at households and community, women will be supported and encouraged to take leadership in water, sanitation, and hygiene management.

The **Canadian Red Cross Society, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Korean National Red Cross**, and the **Swiss Red Cross** has been supporting in different community-based health initiatives which will continue in 2024 as well.



Migration and displacement

Migratory trends in Nepal are dominated by Nepalese people leaving the country to seek foreign employment. According to the [2021 census](#), more than 2.1 million Nepalese people are living and working abroad. While this labour migration has a significant positive effect on Nepal's economy, it also has a series of socio-economic impacts on the welfare of Nepalese nationals and their communities.

The large number of male migrations has greater impact on women in the communities as they are left behind to look after their family including children and elderly family member as well as compelled to engage in other livelihoods activities, including agricultural work by themselves.

At the same time, disasters and crises have been causing widespread displacement in Nepal in recent years. With

changing climate patterns, hilly and mountain areas are becoming less populated due to overexploitation of natural resources, water scarcity, food insufficiency and lesser access to health services. A 2022 [report](#) by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre estimates that 3.4 million people were displaced by disaster in the last decade (2011-2021) while in any given year in the future, an average 96,000 people could be displaced by riverine floods and earthquakes. According to the report, most disaster displacement in Nepal takes the form of pre-emptive evacuations or short-term relocation to homes of friends and relatives while a home is being repaired. Thousands of people, however, are unable to return to their homes for longer periods.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#) which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points, (2) strengthening National Society capacities, and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The Nepal Red Cross Society has been supporting migrants from many years. It has a history of supporting Tibetan Refugees, Bhutanese Refugees, providing health awareness to seasonal migrants from India, supporting the internally displaced population and the most recent one, supporting migrants in point of entries.

The National Society has identified a need for specific attention to the humanitarian needs of migrants, linking to the wider protection agenda. This will require an investment in National Society policies and capacities, and enhanced partnership with authorities and other key stakeholders to design and implement innovative approaches for the benefit of migrants, their families and their communities.

In this context, the focus of Nepal Red Cross Society in 2024 and beyond will be to:

- Continue the restoring family link initiatives by implementing various risk communication and community engagement activities
- Redefine its national-level strategies and plans in relation to migration and displacement through a refreshed understanding of needs as well as a review of its added values in the changing context of the country
- Continue raising awareness for safe and dignified migration, looking at options for scaling up the existing local initiatives beyond projects in partnership with authorities and other stakeholders

- Through specific projects, addressing the social impacts of displacement linked to climate change and other factors

Planned activities in 2024

- Institutionalize National Society actions at points of entries, transit routes, borders, based on lessons learned
- Anti-trafficking initiatives as well as continued risk communication and stigma reduction campaigns at community and school levels
- Carry out needs assessment to better understand the specific needs of migrants and displaced people and mainstream migration and displacement-related issues within existing programmes and services
- Initiate funding opportunities and programmes targeting returned migrants and internally displaced persons
- Continue providing protection and assistance to IDPs and their host communities impacted by recurrent disasters in the country
- Tackle climate-induced internal displacement particularly in urban areas
- Livelihood support for migrant people by providing cash grant or skill-based training
- Develop terms of reference for migration focal points and restoring family links at all levels of the organization
- Develop cross border relationship with neighbouring National Societies for mutual cooperation and support in migration issues

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society in cross border collaboration while disseminating key messages related to safe migration within country and in the country of destination as well. It will support the National Society in mainstreaming migration-related issues within the disaster response emergency fund (DREF) and appeals in coming years, in particular regarding monsoon floods and landslides. Further support to the National Society will consist of supporting the National Society to actively engage in the Global Migration Task Force and in the Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN) as required.

The **British Red Cross**, along with the **American Red Cross**, is supporting a project titled 'Strengthening Actions for Fostering Resilience through Individual, Community and Institutional Readiness in Nepal ([SAFER Nepal](#))'. The implementation will continue in 2024.



Values, power and inclusion

Communities in the country are facing multiple power dynamics that affect their well-being, including local governance, control over resources, unequal decision-making within families, and a lack of access to health, livelihoods, education and social rights. Nepal has a Gender Inequality Index value of 0.452, ranking 126 out of 162 countries in the 2022 index. Only 26.0 per cent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education, compared with 42.8 per cent of their male counterparts. Additionally, while Nepal has a majority youth population, young people face considerable challenges in influencing the country's social and economic development. As the life expectancy of people in Nepal increases, authorities will need to focus on the specific needs and interests of an ageing population in the coming years.

In emergencies, women, children, people living with disabilities, senior citizens and socially excluded groups are exposed to additional risks when families and service providers are not able to provide appropriate support, care and protection. Child marriage, child labour, isolation during menstruation, human trafficking, child, victims and witnesses of domestic violence, corporal punishment, sexual abuse and exploitation are among the most common forms of violence in Nepal.

Gender-based violence and incidences of violence against children are increasing due to poverty, ignorance, negligence and lack of appropriate care, as well as ineffective implementation of laws and policies. Marginalized groups experience low governance participation, low access to services, and low employment and asset ownership. They also exhibit less positive health and education outcomes.

The contributing factors for violence against women in Nepal include the lower social status of women, illiteracy, economic dependency, patriarchal society, sex trafficking, alcohol-related abuse, dowry-related violence, infidelity, extramarital affairs of husband, unemployment, and denial of sex with husband.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society has renewed its commitment for an inclusive organization that ensures access of all to the leadership and decision-making roles at all levels in-line with the principle of impartiality. The National Society is also focusing on comprehensive protection, gender, and inclusion approach across operations and programmes. Such approach includes equal participation of women and other marginalized groups in leadership and decision-making level: at least 33 per cent women participation as well as meaningful participation of excluded and marginalized groups as staff and volunteer in the organization. Additionally, the Nepal Red Cross Society aims at reducing gender and diversity-based inequalities

and all forms of discrimination at all levels through the implementation of the PGI minimum standards (focusing on Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety) at institutional, programmatic and services levels. Finally, the Nepal Red Cross Society will continue enhancing capacity of the vulnerable groups on gender and social inclusion at all levels while at the time empowering disadvantaged people to participate in Nepal Red Cross Society services and activities.

The Nepal Red Cross Society is also currently formalizing its Community Engagement and accountability (CEA) Policy as well as accompanying CEA mainstreaming guideline with a view to incorporate CEA approaches into all services and initiatives. The guideline is geared to assist in meeting the different needs of people from different demographics, including the most vulnerable people of the community.

Planned activities in 2024

- Initiate Youth and volunteer Led community awareness on climate change
- Support evidence-based documentation, DRR-CCA research, good practices and learnings in the area of climate actions, engagement with research institution and academia
- Design and implement environment friendly prevention (adaptive) and mitigation activities in vulnerable communities.
- Strengthen community capacity to respond extreme climatic and weather-related hazards
- Deliver effective preventive and promotional community-based health services to address the health need of vulnerable population
- Develop cross border relationship with neighbouring national societies for mutual cooperation and support
- Ensure Gender responsive budget for HR and technical support in program/ project and emergency fund
- Conduct refresher training on CEA and BCC as required at institution/programme/project level

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society to disseminate the fundamental principles and humanitarian values among youths, communities, and decision-makers. Youth volunteers will be supported to continue ongoing youth led climate actions aiming to bring positive change in communities. Technical and financial support for youth-led education and action has been scaled up, building on the Youth Engagement Strategy

and other youth-led initiatives including Y-Adapt, road safety, [first aid](#) among others. The support also fosters networking and exchange of good practices and lessons learned between National Society, national organizations, and the Movement's global, regional, and subregional youth networks.

Ensuring Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) across all programmes and services will be central to the programmatic support. This includes effective implementation

of Child Protection and SGBV prevention in line with the IFRC strategy on violence prevention, mitigation, and response, IFRC gender policy, IFRC gender and diversity strategic framework.

The IFRC will continue to provide support for the institutionalization of CEA in Nepal Red Cross Society. In addition, the IFRC network will support the Nepal Red Cross Society in mainstreaming the CEA guidelines and other strategic document that will enhance Nepal Red Cross Society accountability towards community people.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Nepal Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing its institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC's Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification ([OCAC](#)) process in 2014. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Nepal Red Cross Society is also committed to the IFRC Preparedness for Effective Response ([PER](#)) process and is currently at the workplan phase. The PER Approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze strengths and gaps in preparedness and response mechanisms and ultimately take necessary action to improve.

The Nepal Red Cross Society endorsed its [Strategic Plan 2021-2025](#) in 2020, followed by its transformative consolidated

National Society development (NSD) Plan in the same year. Both planning processes were conducted with inclusive participation of local units, government counterparts as well as volunteers while being fully supported by IFRC, its membership as well as the ICRC. These plans are in line with the wider country frameworks endorsed by authorities as well as existing policies of the Nepal Red Cross Society. They were designed in response to the needs and priorities identified through OCAC, PER and Safer Access Framework assessments in past years as well as the key findings and recommendations from the two major humanitarian responses of the National Society: the 2015 earthquake response operation and the 2017 floods response operation.

At sub-national level, the Nepal Red Cross Society completed in 2023 the planning process for the seven provinces of the country in line with national plans. These provincial plans were designed by branches and volunteers and serve as a resource mobilization tool targeting locally available funding and focusing on core mandates of the National Society as per its auxiliary role.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society enjoys a strong relationship with authorities at all levels based on its auxiliary role, in particular in the fields of disaster risk reduction and management as well as health care. There are ample opportunities to leverage these relationships to plan beyond projects and agree on more long-term and strategic initiatives where the National Society can support the Government in implementing some of its development agenda, while also accessing resources from multilateral donors (Green / Climate Fund, Pandemic Preparedness fund, GAVI, etc.). Likewise, at both provincial and municipal levels, the Nepal Red Cross Society is a trusted counterpart in local initiatives and has increasing access to resources through coordinated projects and initiatives. Also, more systematic coordination could be pursued with other sectors for emerging issues such as climate action, youth mobilization, social inclusion, etc.

The Nepal Red Cross Society has a long history of partnering / coordinating with technical and research institutes, including academic institutions. This will be continued in 2024 across all sectors with the objective to increase the technical quality of programming as well as possibly access new resources.

The National Society is increasingly seeking to mobilize more domestic resources given the existing opportunities. This includes better utilization of lands and assets owned by the National Society, accessing more funds from the Government at all levels and increasing the number of programmes and projects with various stakeholders. On the international side, while the trend has been decreasing in recent years, there are new opportunities with climate action if the new types of (long-term) partnership can be brokered, which is also connected to the governance transition of the National Society as well as the legal base issues.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society in its coordination and cooperation efforts with authorities, covering disaster and crises, health programming, youth engagement and climate action. The IFRC shares with the Nepal Red Cross Society, the roles of Secretariat of the CBDRM Platform led by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration and co-lead of the Shelter Cluster led by the Department of Urban Development and Building Codes under the Ministry of Urban Development. The IFRC will continue to leverage its Status Agreement in the country to engage with the Diplomatic Community, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) mechanisms and other key donor forums on key humanitarian and development issues. This will be done in a coordinated way with the Nepal Red Cross Society and in-country partners to ensure communication with one voice and present the “collective reach” of the network in the country. The [Early Warning for All](#) global campaign includes Nepal as one of the 30 priority countries, with a good momentum being built in the second part of 2023 and resources potentially being available in 2024 to implement flagship initiatives.

The IFRC has at its disposal, rapid response funding instruments in case of emergency ([IFRC DREF](#), crisis modifiers of the projects funded by Danish Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross, Quick Action Fund of American Red Cross, emergency funds from British Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross).

Partnership and engagement among IFRC and its membership in support of the National Society will also continue through joint programming in National Society development, WASH, health, disaster preparedness and earthquake recovery, nature-based solutions, among others.

The **Danish Red Cross** supports the Nepal Red Cross Society role as co-chair of the Anticipatory Action Community of Practice.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the Nepal Red Cross Society in 2022-23 to have its own online donation portals for which activation will be technically supported in case of emergency operations in 2024.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The trust enjoyed by National Societies depends on their core strengths as institutions, including their sustainability, predictability and good governance. In recent years, the Nepal Red Cross Society has been under governance transition, while continuing to enjoy trust among community members and vis-à-vis authorities at all levels. One critical path towards normalization of the National Society is the current drafting of a Red Cross Law for the country, which is expected to serve as the foundation for the transformative National Society development ([NSD](#)) agenda of the Nepal Red Cross Society and required by the evolving national context. In 2020, the Nepal Red Cross Society adopted its consolidated National Society development plan for 2021-2025, which calls for a comprehensive transformation of the National Society based on a new legal base, modernized structures and systems as well as enhanced community engagement and humanitarian diplomacy. The consolidated National Society development plan comprises the following thematic areas:

- Contextualized transformations: structures, systems, rules and policies based on the new internal/external environment
- Resource mobilization: ensure financial sustainability for effective and efficient service delivery
- Strengthening financial management systems at all levels of the organization for transparency, accountability and financial discipline
- Strengthening Planning Monitoring Evaluation Reporting and Information Management (PMER-IM) systems for promoting organizational learning, accountability and compliance.
- Logistics management for effective and efficient service delivery and emergency response.
- Effective management of Human Resources for organizational efficiency (staffs and volunteers)
- Youth as leader, volunteer and beneficiary
- Role of communication in image building: Promoting acceptance, humanitarian diplomacy, representation and community engagement and accountability
- Protection, Gender and Inclusion in social development process

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC support in 2024 will be the continued engagement with the Nepal Red Cross Society and authorities towards a Red Cross law to ensure a strong legal base for the National Society and reaffirm its auxiliary roles in various sectors of intervention. In addition, the IFRC will accompany the Nepal Red Cross Society in the revision of its [statutes](#) in line with IFRC 2018 global Guidance.

A key vector for IFRC support is the “Paribartak” climate campaign led by youth launched late 2022 which will continue to be supported and scaled up, with a new focus on local resource mobilization, aiming to ensure it is fully institutionalized and domestically funded by the end of 2025. Finally, the IFRC will also ensure coordinated support to the consolidated National Society development plan across the network in the spirit of the National Society development compact where the skills and expertise from all the participating National Societies will be leveraged in support of commonly agreed plan.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

A key focus for the Nepal Red Cross Society's policy engagement with authorities in 2023 and beyond will be ongoing negotiations for a Red Cross Law for Nepal, paving the way for clarified auxiliary roles and enhanced National Society visibility and credibility. To achieve this, the National Society must enhance its capacity to demonstrate the collective impact of its work at community level in line with government policies and plans, particularly in key mandated areas such as disaster response, blood transfusion, community health and youth engagement.

In addition, internal National Society capacities in humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy will be strengthened in support of strategic engagement with authorities, media and other key stakeholders. This must be based on sound evidence-based and harmonized messaging, using high-quality communication products. Aside from the Red Cross Law, the National Society in Nepal is also engaging with authorities on a wide range of policy issues that affect community resilience.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society in leveraging its unique mandate to contribute to policies and plans of the Government, in particular in Disaster Risk Management (as member of the Executive Committee and local disaster management committees, co-chair of shelter cluster, Secretariat of the CBDRM platform, co-chair of the anticipatory action COP, advisory member of DP-Net, etc.) and health (privileged relationship on blood transfusion, pre-hospital care, vaccination, etc.). More generally, the IFRC will support the Nepal Red Cross Society counterparts in meaningfully engaging in local/national policy dialogues as relevant while also coordinating the participation of representatives of the Nepal Red Cross Society and the IFRC in relevant global/regional policy dialogues as per invitations received.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nepal Red Cross Society has identified key priorities related to accountability under its National Society development plan. Key actions for 2024 include the enhancement of accountability framework, internal control systems as well as safeguarding and compliance handling through the formulation of policies and mechanisms in line with revised Nepal Red Cross Society statutes. Further efforts will be made to increase the enforcement of such policies across all programming through dissemination of procedures, rationalized archiving processes and required trainings. HR systems also require extensive review focusing on processes such as recruitment, performance management, career development, safety and security, among others. Finally, an urgent need for the National Society accountability is to have consolidated financial statement and audit across the organization, which will be a priority for 2024.

The Nepal Red Cross Society data across the country is considered as being fragmented since there is no centralized

digital database system available that allows greater accessibility across the organizations and to the external people. Following progress in recent years, the key priorities for 2024 will continue to be: (1) reduction of digital divide through development of IT/IM basic facilities at level, (2) further institutionalization of the Management Information System of the Nepal Red Cross Society focusing on volunteer management, relief item stock management, Nepal Red Cross Society-wide integrated reporting and feedback mechanisms, (3) functional Emergency Operations Centre for timely and efficient emergency response and (4) digitalization of blood transfusion services.

The Nepal Red Cross Society will continue to foster a culture of innovation at all levels, starting from the leadership and also at programmatic level. At the same time, innovative partnerships will be sought focusing on flagship services of the Nepal Red Cross Society (blood, ambulance, first aid) while the use of digital tools and volunteers' network will be leveraged to design innovative campaign on humanitarian principles and values.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society across its accountability efforts. Several areas of innovation are

ongoing within the IFRC Network in Nepal which will continue in 2024. These include technological innovations in the field of anticipatory action, improved ambulances, and digitalization of blood banking, among others.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC is currently present in Nepal through a country delegation first established in 1965, providing support to the Nepal Red Cross Society programmes and capacity building. The longer-term mission of IFRC is to facilitate organizational growth, technical capacities, partnerships and resource mobilization that enable the Nepal Red Cross Society to deliver on its humanitarian mandate in the country through the provision of technical support, advocacy, representation and coordination functions. In recent years, the IFRC supported the Nepal Red Cross Society through DREF and Emergency

Appeal operations in response to earthquakes, floods, landslides and disease outbreaks, including through the IFRC COVID-19 global appeal.

The IFRC Nepal Country Delegation also provides services to seven partner National Societies with a presence in the country through integration agreements, under the umbrella of the IFRC Status Agreement with the Government of Nepal. These services include administration, security, logistics and procurement, HR, finance and IT.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need, incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In Nepal, there is a strong focus on strengthening cooperation and engagement within the IFRC membership, to ensure a participatory and collective planning process with the Nepal Red Cross Society at the centre. All in-country partners provide coordinated support across several initiatives, including

a three-year cash preparedness initiative established in mid-2021, bringing together the American Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and the IFRC. The IFRC has also harnessed the expertise of the Danish Red Cross and the IFRC's Climate Centre to support the Nepal Red Cross Society in strengthening its annual monsoon preparedness and response activities.

The National Society's longer-term partners support the Nepal Red Cross Society through specific focus areas:

The **American Red Cross** supports the National Society in Nepal to deliver community-based disaster risk reduction in the Sudar Pachim province and provides technical support within planning, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and information management activities.

The **British Red Cross** coordinates with the Swiss Red Cross to support the National Society in Nepal to deliver integrated

programming in Lumbini and Karnali. It also supports climate-smart water, sanitation and hygiene activities with the Finnish Red Cross and the IFRC, as well as livelihoods, cash and voucher assistance preparedness, migration, community engagement.

The **Canadian Red Cross Society** supports the National Society in Nepal to deliver pre-hospital care and community-based health activities.

The **Danish Red Cross** supports the National Society in Nepal to deliver activities across inclusive disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action, shock-responsive social protection, piloting, protection, gender and inclusion, and youth engagement.

The **Finnish Red Cross** supports the National Society in Nepal to strengthen its climate action, early warning early action, protection, gender and inclusion, water, sanitation and hygiene, and community engagement and accountability.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society** supports community-based disaster risk reduction and youth action for water, sanitation and hygiene in Nepal.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supports the National Society in Nepal to deliver community health activities and strengthen branch development and community-based disaster risk reduction.

Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
American Red Cross	857,000	●	●		●		
British Red Cross	2.2M	●	●	●	●	●	●
Canadian Red Cross Society	114,000			●			●
Danish Red Cross	2M	●	●	●		●	●
Finnish Red Cross	435,000	●	●			●	●
Irish Red Cross Society	125,000		●	●			
Italian Red Cross	115,000	●					●
Korean Red Cross	261,000		●	●			●
Luxembourg Red Cross	242,000		●				
Qatar Red Crescent Society	24,000			●			
Swiss Red Cross	1.2M	●	●	●		●	●

Total Funding requirement

7.6M



Nepal Red Cross Society volunteers conduct a dengue awareness campaign in schools in November 2023. (Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society)

Movement coordination

Movement coordination among the Nepal Red Cross Society, the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at country level, will continue into 2024 and beyond through formal tripartite meetings and more informal or ad hoc discussions, as well as continuous information-sharing. This coordination is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#). A critical area of cooperation is the joint advocacy and support for a Red Cross Law for Nepal, a process that started in 2019 and will continue

given the current context, challenges and opportunities in the country.

In Nepal, the ICRC continues to address the consequences of the internal conflict that ended in 2006, and helps people affected by unrest. It supports the Nepal Red Cross Society, local government and other bodies to boost their emergency capacities and promotes international humanitarian law. The ICRC carries out most of its work in coordination with the National Society. Nepal is covered by the ICRC regional delegation in India.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Nepal Red Cross Society coordinates closely with public authorities for disaster management and health, and works with government-led relevant platforms and mechanisms. This includes line agencies of the Ministry of Home Affairs, such as the National Emergency Operating Center and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority. The National Society coordinates with government agencies at provincial and local levels, including local governments, district disaster management committees and national clusters.

The Nepal Red Cross Society also has a long-standing partnership with the UN agencies, such as UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP, not only for humanitarian response, but also for specific development projects, including disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action, vaccination campaigns, etc. In times of emergencies, the National Society and the IFRC coordinate with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office.

In Nepal, the coordination of shelter cluster member agencies is one of the Nepal Red Cross Society and the IFRC's regular activities at country level, as part of the wider Humanitarian Country Team and under the leadership of the Ministry of Urban Development. In line with the cluster system in place in the country, the shelter cluster is chaired by the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction under the

Ministry of Urban Development, while the IFRC is co-chair in coordination with the Nepal Red Cross Society.

The [global shelter cluster](#) is an inter-agency standing committee coordination mechanism and the IFRC has been leading the shelter cluster in disaster contexts since the establishment of the cluster approach in 2005. This critical mandate places the IFRC as one of the lead agencies in the international humanitarian coordination system. The IFRC leverages its leadership position in the global shelter cluster to advocate for improved coordination, stronger policies and standards across the sector, and better support for affected people in their recovery.

The Global Shelter Cluster and country Shelter Clusters work collectively with national response actors, including local and national governments, to support people with timely, effective and predictable shelter and settlement responses. As such, the Nepal Red Cross Society's shelter cluster co-leadership role significantly contributes towards the localization efforts of the international humanitarian system. Its local knowledge and understanding of the context, along with its network and established community relationships, enhance the effectiveness, relevance, and connectedness of the overall humanitarian shelter response.



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.

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](#)

This plan reflects the priorities of the Nepal Red Cross Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2024 and subsequent years. It is aligned with the [IFRC Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

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