

## IN SUPPORT OF THE NEPAL RED CROSS SOCIETY



**77**

National Society branches



**8,244**

National Society local units



**146,524**

National Society volunteers



**422**

National Society staff

## PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency Operations



**20,430**

Climate and environment



**244,697**

Disasters and crises



**133,216**

Health and wellbeing



**1,286,688**

Migration and displacement



**2,355**

Values, power and inclusion



**27,618**

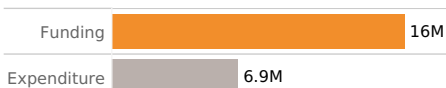
## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

*in Swiss francs (CHF)*

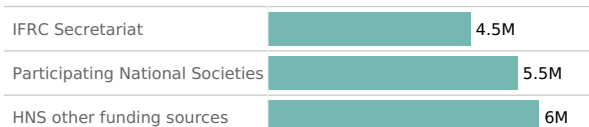
Country	Funding Requirement	Value
Country	Funding Requirement	16.3M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations Funding	2.1M
	Emergency Operations Expenditure	957,000
	Longer-term Funding Requirement	4.7M
	Longer-term Funding	6.3M
Participating National Societies	Longer-term Expenditure	2.5M
	Funding Requirement	5.5M
	Funding	3.9M
HNS other funding sources	Expenditure	7.3M
	Funding Requirement	6M
	Funding	6M

### Nepal Red Cross Society

Overview



Funding Sources



Appeal number **MAANP001**

*In addition to: CHF 5M Funding requirement for newly launched emergency appeals\*, CHF 172,000 DREF Funding*

# ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRNP016 / Karnali Earthquake

People supported with CVA	20,000
People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	20,000
People reached with shelter support	3,000
People reached with health promotion as a response to an emergency by community-based volunteers	3,000
People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	3,000
People (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	3,000
People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	3,000
Constructed household sanitation facilities	3,000
RCRC staff who have been briefed on the Child Safeguarding Policy	52
People have access to a feedback and complaints mechanism	Yes
One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
National Society is part of their national government's DRM plans	Yes
National Society has taken action on recommendations from real-time evaluations and other evaluations	Yes
National Society has active coordination mechanism for operations (i.e. EOC, situation room)	Yes
National Society has a PSEA policy to enforce prevention and support survivors (cumulative)	Yes

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	245,000
	People reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities	78,000
	Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?	Yes
	Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?	Yes
	Developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks?	Yes
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	133,000
	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	88,000
	People reached with shelter support	5,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	479
	Percentage of humanitarian assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	1%
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	1.3M
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	312,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	5,000
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	2,000
	Data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes
	Advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	28,000
	Is Community Engagement and Accountability 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	4
National Society development	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
	National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society is showing progress in digital transformation according to the digital maturity model outlined in IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy	Yes
	National Society has a PSEA Action Plan to enforce prevention and support survivors (cumulative)	Yes
	Functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions	Yes

## IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Multilateral Support	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion
American Red Cross	●	●	●			
Australian Red Cross	●					
Austrian Red Cross	●					
British Red Cross	●	●	●	●	●	●
Canadian Red Cross Society	●			●		
Danish Red Cross		●	●	●		●
Finnish Red Cross		●	●			●
Irish Red Cross Society				●		
Italian Red Cross	●					
Japanese Red Cross Society	●	●	●			
Korean Red Cross	●			●		
Luxembourg Red Cross		●	●			
New Zealand Red Cross	●					
Norwegian Red Cross	●					
Red Cross Society of China	●					
Swiss Red Cross		●	●	●		●

■ Supported

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

With a diverse population of over 29 million, Nepal is experiencing one of the fastest urban growth rates of any South Asian country. However, more than 2.1 million Nepali nationals are living and working abroad. With this number increasing every year, the rural population of the country is in decline. The country struggles with great disparities in human development, being placed at 143 out of 189 countries, per the [Human Development Index \(HDI\)](#).

In 2023, Nepal faced significant climate and disaster challenges. The summer of 2023 was the [hottest on record](#) in Nepal. Damkauli in Nawalparasi observed temperatures of 43.8 degrees Celsius, not seen in the last 44 years. Over 5,500 forest fire incidents were reported, making Kathmandu one of the most polluted cities globally due to forest fires and air quality issues. The country was also adversely affected by unseasonal rains. Heavy rainfall in October triggered landslides and floods, killing 100 people and damaging infrastructure in various districts.

The country also remained vulnerable to natural disasters in 2023 with [two major earthquakes](#) occurring in western parts of the country, resulting in 155 deaths and affecting over 70,000 households. The monsoon rains further triggered disasters across the country, causing 68 fatalities and adversely impacting 6,000 households and displacing countless residents.

With regard to social inclusion and values, the caste system, although officially abolished in 1962, remains one of the most influential factors in politics, economics, and power. Despite the provision of constitutional and legal rights, factors such as power relations, ethnicity, physical access, and the digital divide are still a barrier to equitable economic development, for women and other socially vulnerable groups, in particular.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

During the reporting period, the Nepal Red Cross Society undertook climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability interventions in 15 districts. Training in climate-smart programming and nature-based solutions was provided to staff and volunteers. Local initiatives undertaken by the National Society included strengthening early warning systems, vulnerability mapping and collaborating with national authorities for impact-based forecasting. In addition, youth-led climate action was promoted through 'The Changemaker' campaign and Y-Adapt training, with 41 facilitators conducting nine training sessions nationwide. The development of a national climate change and environment policy and framework marked a crucial step towards enhancing organizational capacity and ensuring a unified approach towards climate adaptation and environmental sustainability.

### Disasters and crises

The Nepal Red Cross Society continued to support those hit hardest by crises and disasters, providing relief through two IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) for earthquakes, one of which became a part of the Karnali earthquake Emergency Appeal (MDRNP016). The emergency relief extended included shelter; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, emergency clinics, health promotion, psychosocial support, dignity kits and cash assistance. Further, the Nepal Red Cross Society successfully implemented community-based resilience and disaster risk reduction projects. Its activities included a focus on multi-hazard risk assessments, early-warning systems, risk reduction plans, mitigation efforts, emergency funds, school-based initiatives and first responder training. The National Society integrated climate-sensitive and nature-based measures to enhance community preparedness and response.

### Health and wellbeing

The Nepal Red Cross Society has made significant progress in its auxiliary role through the development and implementation of key health frameworks, such as the Health Policy 2022, Health Strategy 2022-2030 and Health Operational Plan 2022-2025. During its responses to emergencies, the National Society focused on first aid, CADRE, and emergency health training, integrating mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and psychological first aid (PFA). This was prominent in the recent earthquake responses in Sudurpaschim province. Progress in water,

sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programming included the construction of 15 drinking water schemes benefiting 303,156 people, the introduction of climate-smart water-lifting technologies and comprehensive capacity-building for water user committees. The National Society trained personnel in emergency WASH and also updated its emergency WASH roster, prepositioning hygiene kits and sanitation facilities.

### **Migration and displacement**

The Nepal Red Cross Society continued providing essential services to migrants and those internally displaced by earthquakes, landslides and floods. It prioritized lifeline support such as food, shelter, first aid; water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) and cash grants. Precedence was given to vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, the elderly and children. The services included ready-to-eat food, water, temporary shelter, hygiene and dignity kits, and psychosocial support. The National Society also continued its advocacy efforts with the government, ensuring access to national identity documents and social security funds for those internally displaced and migrants. It prioritized risk communication at the national level, spreading messages on safe migration, anti-trafficking and accessing services via radio, street drama and social media, while maintaining comprehensive coordination with the authorities, development partners and stakeholders.

### **Values, power and inclusion**

The Nepal Red Cross Society continued to promote safe and inclusive programming and enhance community engagement with vulnerable populations. Progress during this reporting period included organizing nationwide orientations on safeguarding individuals during programme implementation, leadership training in Kathmandu valley districts and updating the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy and safeguarding mechanisms. The National Society actively promoted women and youth leadership in seven provinces, focusing on marginalized groups. Additionally, it provided financial assistance through the Sathi Sahayog fund to vulnerable populations, including people with disabilities and chronic diseases. The National Society also began efforts to update protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) guidelines.

### **Enabling Local Actors**

The Nepal Red Cross Society consolidated its National Society development plan, focusing on nine thematic areas, including planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) systems strengthening. The National Society also continued its advocacy efforts for a Red Cross Law, aiming to clarify auxiliary roles and to enhance visibility and credibility. In 2023, the Nepal Red Cross Society engaged with authorities to align its community programming with government policies in disaster response, blood transfusion, community health and youth engagement. Additionally, the National Society undertook the digitalization of volunteer data and warehouse stocks, utilizing the Management Information System.

## **Changes and amendments**

The Nepal Red Cross Society continued its programme delivery through the extension of Temporary Operational Modalities (TOM), as the transition of its governance was not yet completed by June 2023. There were no significant amendments in the Unified Plan during the reporting.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

<b>Appeal number</b>	<a href="#">MDRNP016</a>
<b>Duration</b>	November 2023 to December 2024
<b>Funding requirements</b>	Total IFRC: 5 million Total Federation-wide: 7 million
<b>Emergency Appeal</b>	<a href="#">Emergency Appeal</a>
<b>Operational Strategy</b>	<a href="#">Operational Strategy</a>
<b>Last operation update</b>	<a href="#">Operation update</a>

On 3rd November 2023, a 6.6 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal's Karnali province, causing significant devastation in Jajarkot, Rukum West, and Salyan districts. The earthquake resulted in 154 fatalities and extensive damage to homes, schools, and public infrastructure valued at millions of Nepali rupees. The Nepal Red Cross Society mobilized for rescue operations and provided essential relief to those displaced and exposed to harsh weather conditions. The Nepal Red Cross Society in collaboration with government authorities, conducted initial rapid assessments and detailed needs assessments to identify priorities for assistance. The IFRC activated its [Disaster Relief Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) in November 2023. Subsequently, an IFRC [Emergency Appeal \(EA\)](#) was launched seeking CHF 7 million for relief efforts.

### Short description of the emergency operational strategy

Federation-wide support has enabled the National Society to assist about 50,000 people through this Appeal. The following support was provided: transitional shelters, toilets and water storage through cash-based support. Access to the government shelter programme was also facilitated. About 3,570 households received multi-purpose cash grants. Health services played a crucial role, through Red Cross emergency clinics, as well as the provision of mental health and psychosocial support for. The Nepal Red Cross Society also engaged with targeted communities through community engagement and accountability activities.

For the period of [November 2023 to December 2024](#), the following support was provided:

#### Emergency Shelter

Providing emergency shelter support to those whose homes have been damaged or destroyed.

#### Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance

Offering financial support to allow affected families to meet their diverse and immediate needs.

**Transitional Shelter:** Assisting in the provision of temporary housing solutions for those displaced or in need of shelter.

#### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Ensuring access to clean water, adequate sanitation facilities, and promoting hygiene practices.

#### Health Promotion

Focusing on health awareness to prevent the spread of diseases and to promote overall well-being.

#### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

Keeping communities informed about risks and involved in the decision-making process for their recovery.

## Protection Interventions

Addressing the safety, access and rights of vulnerable populations, including women, children, the elderly, and those with disabilities.

## Community Engagement and Accountability

Risk communication and community engagement initiatives have been implemented extensively across all intervention sectors to ensure widespread participation and understanding among affected populations. Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials have been produced and disseminated through diverse channels including social media, radio broadcasts, mass meetings, and door-to-door visits to enhance community awareness and promote best practices in disaster response and recovery efforts.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



## Climate and environment

*Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises*

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Nepal Red Cross Society made significant progress in climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability across 15 districts, reaching over 112,591 people through climate smart programming and nature-based solutions. These efforts focused on enhancing disaster risk reduction through meeting the health, water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), and livelihood of the people affected. Training on climate smart programming and nature-based solutions further empowered National Society staff and volunteers to integrate climate adaptation into disaster risk reduction and WASH programs.

The National Society's local initiatives include strengthening early warning systems, conducting vulnerability mapping, and collaborating with Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) and the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) for impact-based forecasting. The Nepalgunj Heat Action Plan 2023, developed with Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, established water distribution points and conducted awareness campaigns. Additionally, youth-led climate action is being promoted through "The Changemaker" campaign, engaging young people in innovative climate solutions and Y-Adapt training across provinces.

Most of the applicants who have received implementation grants have also received y-adapt training which is a curriculum for young people to learn about climate change. The Nepal Red Cross Society now has 41 y-adapt facilitators from all seven provinces. The y-adapt facilitators conducted 9 y-adapt trainings in different parts of the country and inspired youth volunteers in taking adaptation actions. Additionally, youth-led climate adaptation has been discussed in provincial seminars in Lumbini, Bagmati and Gandaki. Further, Y-adapt facilitator manual is translated into Nepali language with contextualization of some contents in it.

The development of climate change and environment policy and framework at the national level, marks a crucial step towards enhancing organizational capacity. This framework will guide dissemination, orientation, and capacity building activities for staff and volunteers, ensuring a unified approach to climate adaptation and environmental sustainability.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC has supported the Nepal Red Cross Society in climate change mitigation and environmental practices such as training sessions on climate smart programming and nature-based solutions for staff and volunteers, equipping them with skills to integrate climate change adaptation. Additionally, The IFRC is also supporting the National Society with the youth-led climate action programmes such as "The Changemaker" campaign and Y-Adapt training.

The IFRC, along with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, also assisted the Nepal Red Cross Society with finalizing the climate change and environment policy at a national level.

The **British Red Cross** and **Finnish Red Cross** support the National Society in developing municipal-level flood standard operating procedures and provide cash support to households in disaster-prone municipalities, demonstrating a concerted effort to strengthen community resilience at the grassroots level.

Together with **Danish Red Cross**, the Nepal Red Cross Society developed and implemented an inclusive early warning communication channel recognized for its innovation in disaster management, winning the Global EWEA Challenge 2023. This initiative supported timely dissemination of early warning messages in Nepal.



## Disasters and crises

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

In 2023, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was approved for two separate emergencies:

### 1. Nepal - Far Western Earthquake Response

<b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>	<a href="#">Nepal - Far Western Earthquake Response</a>
<b>MDR-CODE</b>	MDRET031
<b>DURATION</b>	6 months (17 November 2022 to May 2023)
<b>FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>	CHF 449,479
<b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>	11,000
<b>LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b>	<a href="#">DREF Operations Final Report</a>

The DREF allocation of CHF 449,479 in November 2022 supported the Nepal Red Cross Society in aiding 11,000 people affected by an earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale in far western Nepal. The response operation aimed to support targeted most vulnerable families to meet their needs in earthquake affected districts: Doti, Achham, and Bajhang by providing transitional shelter support, basic household non-food relief items as well as health, WASH, protection services, both in-kind as well as Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) support.

### 2. Nepal – Nepal Earthquake

<b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>	<a href="#">Nepal Earthquake</a>
<b>MDR-CODE</b>	MDRNP015
<b>DURATION</b>	6 months (12 October 2023 to 30 April 2024)
<b>FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>	CHF 172,176
<b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>	7,500
<b>LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b>	<a href="#">DREF Operations</a>

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 172,176 in October 2023 supported the Nepal Red Cross Society in aiding approximately 7,500 people affected by a 5.3 magnitude earthquake and its strong aftershocks in far western Nepal. The National Society supported the affected families with emergency shelter items, risk communication and community engagement and accountability as well as protection interventions for an initial period of six months.

## *Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards environmental crises*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has successfully implemented community-based resilience and disaster risk reduction projects, reaching more than 100,000 people by the end of 2023, including 71,481 female community members. These projects have encompassed activities such as community-level multi-hazard risk assessments, early-warning system establishment, development of risk reduction plans, small-scale mitigation efforts, emergency fund creation, school-based disaster risk reduction initiatives, and capacity building training for first responders. The National Society has empowered vulnerable communities with skills for risk assessment and reduction planning, implementing measures to mitigate existing hazards, and enhancing preparedness for effective response. Integration of climate-sensitive risk reduction measures and nature-based initiatives into community-level projects underscores the Nepal Red Cross Society's commitment to sustainable resilience.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supported the Nepal Red Cross Society to enhance coordination and collaboration with local, national, and international partners to mobilize additional resources for scaling up resilience and disaster risk reduction efforts in vulnerable communities.

The **American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** have provided crucial funding to Nepal Red Cross Society for the implementation of community-based resilience and disaster risk reduction projects which spanned 18 districts in Sudur-Paschim, Karnali, Lumbini, Gandaki, Bagmati, and Koshi Provinces. Despite the effectiveness of the projects, sustaining and expanding these initiatives into additional districts was challenging due to declining external funding trends compared to previous years.

*People affected by crises and disaster have their needs met through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate and flexible and strengthens their agency*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In response to multiple earthquakes and natural disasters in Nepal, the Nepal Red Cross Society has been actively engaged in providing emergency relief and recovery efforts across affected regions. Following the devastating earthquakes in Far-Western Nepal which caused significant structural damage to homes in Achham, Bajhang, Bajura, and Doti Districts, the Nepal Red Cross Society swiftly responded by distributing emergency shelter items, providing transitional shelters, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) facilities, health promotion, and psychosocial support. Additionally, the Nepal Red Cross Society distributed dignity kits, provided cash for toilet construction, and conducted Red Cross Emergency Clinics, reaching a total of 439 people.

In subsequent disasters, including earthquakes in October 2023 affecting Bajhang, Bajura, and Achham, and in November 2023 affecting Jajarkot, West-Rukum, and Salyan districts, the Nepal Red Cross Society continued its robust response efforts. These also included comprehensive support packages covering shelter, WASH facilities, health services, protection initiatives, and community engagement activities. The Society prioritized vulnerable households, providing multi-purpose cash grants and engaging in cash transfer programs, facilitating relief to affected families through targeted financial assistance. The Nepal Red Cross Society faced challenges such as limited resources and logistical hurdles due to remote locations and lack of banking infrastructure, highlighting the need for enhanced coordination and strategic planning in future operations.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supported the Nepal Red Cross Society through financial and technical assistance. It also supported the National Society through the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF).

The **American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** allocated funds and resources to improve the National Society's emergency responses. Their collaborative efforts included procurement of medicines, provision of technical support for operational planning, and capacity building in disaster response strategies. These joint efforts have been pivotal in enhancing the National Society's capacity to deliver effective humanitarian aid and in strengthening community resilience in disaster-prone regions of Nepal.

*National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and their auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well defined and recognized*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has strategically managed warehouses across the country, ensuring readiness with essential relief materials stocked in advance of seasonal challenges like the monsoon. These materials, including tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses, kitchen utensils, mosquito nets, hygiene kits, and dignity kits, are pre-positioned in central and regional warehouses to facilitate rapid deployment during emergencies. The National Society also conducted emergency response trainings in Bajura, Dhangadhi, and Butwal between April and October 2023, benefiting 85 volunteers and staff members, of which 32 were female. It also updated its disaster response operation manual and initiated the endorsement process through the disaster management department. Essential updates of emergency operation centre (EOC) standard operating procedures (SoP), and [cash and voucher assistance](#) were also undertaken during this period, aiming to streamline response efforts and ensure operational efficiency.

The National Society continued its policy engagement through dialogue platforms, participating in joint consultative meetings organized by IFRC and all IFRC members in-country with the national disaster risk reduction and management authority and line ministries in March 2023. The Nepal Red Cross Society in its auxiliary role to the government, has been instrumental in advocating and supporting the development and rollout of local-level disaster policies mandated by the Constitution of Nepal. The Nepal Red Cross Society actively contributes as a member of various committees and policy dialogues, ensuring that local authorities receive the necessary support and guidance for policy implementation tailored to local needs.

The National Society serves as the Secretariat for the community-based disaster risk management platform under the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA). This platform brings together humanitarian and development partners to foster a common dialogue on disaster risk reduction and management policies. The National Society has collaborated with MoFAGA to amend key policy documents such as the sample local disaster risk reduction and management act, sample local disaster risk management fund mobilization procedure, and local disaster response frameworks. These documents incorporate the National Society's insights and experiences from community-based disaster risk reduction and resilience programs, serving as reference materials for 753 local government units.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supported the National Society in the deployment of three key positions within Nepal Red Cross Society's emergency operation centres (EOCs), contributing to strengthened response coordination and operational effectiveness. It also supported the National Society in developing a work plan for the CBDRM Platform and launched a multilingual website to increase accessibility to community-based disaster risk reduction and resilience initiatives and policy contexts.

The **American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross**, and the **Danish Red Cross** collectively supported the National Society in developing response tools and Information Management systems at district, provincial, and national levels through ongoing resilience and disaster risk reduction projects.

The **Finnish Red Cross** and **Swiss Red Cross** have provided vital support to enhance Nepal Red Cross Society's EOC capacities and supplied necessary tools and equipment.



## **Health and wellbeing**

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*National Societies capitalize on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant Country level public health strategy, advocacy and policy platforms and mechanisms*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

The National Society has made significant progress in strengthening its auxiliary role through the development and implementation of key health frameworks, including the Health Policy 2022, Health Strategy 2022-2030, and Health Operational Plan 2022-2025. Sectoral guidelines such as the Healthy Ageing Guideline and the draft Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Guideline have been formulated to guide the Nepal Red Cross Society's health

initiatives. The organization has actively engaged in national and global health platforms, enhancing partnerships and leveraging opportunities for resource mobilization to support its health agenda.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The **IFRC** has supported the National Society through technical assistance.

The **Canadian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and British Red Cross**, have provided technical support to the National Society and capacity building in various health-related initiatives, including policy development, training, and guideline implementation at provincial and local levels. Despite governance challenges, The Nepal Red Cross Society continues to raise awareness and promote ownership of its health policies and strategies at organizational levels, aiming for enhanced operational effectiveness.

*The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has made significant strides in disaster response and health emergency management. This year, the National Society focused on enhancing community-level responders through the provision of first aid, CADRE, and emergency health training programs. The integration of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and psychological first aid (PFA) services during emergencies has been prioritized, with the National Society and IFRC member support bolstering the preparation of PFA-trained personnel at district and provincial levels. Recent earthquake responses in Sudurpaschim province underscored the critical role of MHPSS in health interventions, with Nepal Red Cross Society conducting clinics in collaboration with district health offices and hospitals, providing basic and specialized health services to affected communities.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The **IFRC** has supported the Nepal Red Cross Society to enhance emergency response capabilities and address health crises nationwide. IFRC's swift approval of a DREF supplemented by additional funding from **British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross**, enabled Nepal Red Cross Society to launch a large-scale risk communication and sanitation campaign across 26 districts, reaching 777,625 individuals. Additionally, the National Society has initiated Community-based surveillance in Baglung district with support from Canadian Red Cross and IFRC, aiming to strengthen Nepal's surveillance systems.



*Nepal Red Cross volunteer interacts with community people to provide health-related information in Doti. (Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society)*

*Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has made substantial advancements in its water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programming throughout 2023. Initiatives included the construction of 15 drinking water schemes across districts like Gulmi, Arghakhanchi, Kalikot, Dailekh, Ramechhap, Sindhuli, and Okhaldhunga, benefiting 303,156 individuals. It has a notable focus on gender inclusion and multi-use functionality for household purposes and kitchen gardening.

The National Society also introduced water-lifting through climate-smart technologies such as hybrid systems in Ramechhap district, combining electricity and solar power.

Additionally, the Nepal Red Cross Society conducted comprehensive capacity-building programs for water user committees (WUCs), encompassing pre/post construction training, meter reading, plumbing, book-keeping, water quality surveillance, and technical maintenance, empowering WUCs to manage and sustain their schemes effectively. Collaborations with local governments facilitated co-funding arrangements for WASH facilities, enhancing community ownership and project sustainability. The Nepal Red Cross Society has also integrated disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) strategies into its WASH programming, underscoring the organization's commitment to resilient infrastructure development.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC, along with **British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, The Republic of Korean Red Cross, Irish Red Cross, and Qatar Red Crescent**, provided crucial support to the Nepal Red Cross Society's WASH initiatives throughout 2023. This collaboration enabled the National Society to enhance its technological capacities and community engagement strategies within WASH projects. Moving forward, the Nepal Red Cross Society and IFRC aim to expand multi-sectoral partnerships for constructing and scaling institutional/public sanitation facilities, emphasizing sustainability and community-driven behaviour change communication strategies.

*Communities at risk from pandemics and epidemics have increased access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

To enhance its disaster response capabilities, the Nepal Red Cross Society maintains a cadre of trained personnel in emergency WASH sectors, including national disaster response teams, WASH training of trainers, WRTs, and menstrual health management training of trainers, who were deployed during various disasters such as the 2022 Doti Earthquake.

The Nepal Red Cross Society has recently updated its emergency WASH trained roster, underscoring the pivotal role of emergency WASH in disaster response phases. During the Doti Earthquake response, the Nepal Red Cross Society disbursed multipurpose cash grants that included WASH components to beneficiaries. The organization has strategically prepositioned hygiene kits, squatting plates, Aqua tabs, buckets, and information, education, communication (IEC) materials in warehouses nationwide. Additionally, the Nepal Red Cross Society constructed 332 sanitation facilities in response to the Doti Earthquake. Concurrently, it also conducted sanitation campaigns across 26 districts, reaching 777,625 individuals, including 398,352 females.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society in improving community access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

The **Australian Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, British Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross** supported the Nepal Red Cross Society with increasing access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable WASH services in the communities. However, due to less resources being available over time, the retention of trained volunteers is declining due to the unavailability of further training/ refreshers.

The British Red Cross, **Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross**, and Swiss Red Cross assisted the National Society with sanitation campaigns focusing on Dengue Control and Prevention activities.



## **Migration and displacement**

*Migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well access to durable solutions when appropriate*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

The National Society also continued to provide essential services to families internally displaced by earthquakes, landslides, and floods, focusing on lifeline support including food, shelter, first aid, hygiene and sanitation, and cash grants. Programmes prioritized vulnerable groups such as women, people with disabilities, elderly individuals, and children most affected by disasters. The services provided by the National Society included ready-to-eat food,

water, temporary shelter, hygiene and dignity kits, as well as psychosocial support. The Nepal Red Cross Society also undertook risk assessments for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and implemented small-scale mitigation measures such as embankment support, fire hydrants, drinking water renovations, and solar light installations. Advocacy efforts with the government continued to ensure access to national identity documents and social security funds for IDPs and migrant populations.

The Nepal Red Cross Society worked to enhance information sharing and organizing events focused on migration-related issues. The organization supported migrant populations through livelihood needs assessments in Baitadi district of Sudur Paschim province, under the broader Paschim disaster risk reduction project. This initiative led to the provision of cash grants and skill-based training to households returning from India and beyond. The Nepal Red Cross Society also prioritized risk communication at the national level, disseminating messages on safe migration, anti-trafficking, and accessing services through various media channels like radio, street drama, and social media. Comprehensive coordination with authorities, development partners, and stakeholders was maintained to strengthen these efforts.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The **IFRC** continued to support the National Society's efforts to reduce the risks and vulnerabilities of migrants and displaced people. This included providing access to essential services.

The **British Red Cross** has supported the National Society in conducting assessments and providing relief and preparedness support for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrant populations across various districts, including Kailali, Kanchanpur, Bardiya, and Kaski.

The **American Red Cross** assisted the National Society in aiding migrant populations through livelihood needs assessments in Baitadi district of Sudur Paschim province, under the broader Paschim disaster risk reduction project.

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The **ICRC** supported the National Society in its restoring family links efforts, supporting refugees and addressing the needs of people in conflict-sensitive areas.



## **Values, power and inclusion**

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*Continue to be a safe and inclusive organization, where ensuring dignity, access, participation, and safety for people of all identities is central to all the work*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has undertaken several initiatives to promote safe and inclusive programming within its operations. This includes organizing nationwide orientations to ensure the safeguarding of individuals during programme implementation. Additionally, the National Society conducted training sessions in Kathmandu valley districts focusing on the importance of women and youth in leadership roles.

The National Society has also developed and updated its Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy and safeguarding mechanisms, aiming to institutionalize these practices across all the Nepal Red Cross Society programmes and services. Furthermore, the National Society has actively promoted women and youth leadership through workshops in seven provinces, advocating for at least 50 per cent participation of women and marginalized groups in programme implementation. The Sathi Sahayog fund has provided financial assistance to vulnerable populations, including people with disabilities, chronic diseases, and marginalized groups, addressing their immediate needs.

During the Karnali earthquake response, the Nepal Red Cross Society provided sexual and gender-based violence and referral support, established child-friendly spaces, and provided assistive devices to people with disabilities in earthquake-affected areas. Challenges included achieving over 40% representation of women and youth in leadership roles due to non-mandatory statutory provisions, operationalizing child-friendly spaces due to financial constraints, and ensuring the sustainability of skilled human resources and funding allocation for mainstreaming inclusive programming and capacity-building interventions for volunteers and staff.

The Nepal Red Cross Society also began working to update its protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) mainstreaming guidelines, conduct GESI audits to assess practices, promote gender-responsive budgets to enhance women's participation and empowerment, and advocate for increased GESI emergency fund allocation within the IFRC network.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** has supported the Nepal Red Cross Society with the implementation of PGI and inclusion-related initiatives across Nepal.

Recent initiatives include the appointment of a safeguarding officer funded by the **British Red Cross** to enhance safeguarding mechanisms.

Additionally, the training sessions on the importance of women and youth in leadership roles conducted in Kathmandu valley by the National Society were supported by the **Danish Red Cross**.

*People and communities, vulnerable to and affected by crises, are empowered to influence decisions affecting them and trust the Red Cross Red Crescent to serve their best interests*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has made significant strides in institutionalizing community engagement and accountability (CEA) within its organization and programmes. The organization developed key guidelines and tools during the reporting period, including the CEA mainstreaming guide, the Nepal Red Cross Society Feedback handling mechanism guideline, and behaviour change communication (BCC) guideline. These resources were aimed at equipping volunteers and staff with the necessary skills to implement CEA principles effectively, with plans to translate the CEA mainstreaming guide into Nepali for broader linguistic accessibility.

The National Society conducted a successful four-day training of trainers (ToT) workshop on behaviour change communication (BCC) in Sudurpaschim and Gandaki provinces. This initiative enhanced the skills of 48 participants from the National Society staff, volunteers, and provincial chapters in applying BCC approaches. The Nepal Red Cross Society also held dedicated CEA Focal Points meetings to discuss policy, feedback handling guidelines, and department-specific challenges related to CEA implementation. A community perception survey was also launched in eight districts to assess existing feedback systems and identify areas for improvement, engaging 40 volunteers in household surveys.

The Nepal Red Cross Society established mechanisms such as a hotline service and door-to-door visits by volunteers to strengthen and institutionalize community feedback. The National Society hotline received 892 calls during the reporting period, addressing inquiries predominantly from male callers. Moreover, the National Society produced 52 episodes of a radio program aired on national FMs, further enhancing communication with communities.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** provided technical and financial support to the Nepal Red Cross Society for implementing CEA initiatives and mainstreaming them across its operations. The **British Red Cross** and **Danish Red Cross** supported these efforts.

The National Society will continue collaborating with IFRC and its members to mainstream CEA in projects, build capacity at province and district levels on BCC, define CEA Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in job descriptions, and establish monitoring mechanisms to ensure effective implementation.

*Contribute to a positive change in communities through a wider understanding, ownership and concrete application of humanitarian values and Fundamental Principles, focusing especially on young people's knowledge, skills and behaviour*

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Nepal Red Cross Society has been actively implementing youth-led leadership capacity enhancement initiatives. These initiatives encompass plan development, youth leadership training, and engagement of youth in various capacity-building activities. The National Society has mobilized youth in institutional-based activities such as Road Safety and Monsoon response, fostering innovative ideas across various thematic areas.

In addition, the National Society plays a pivotal role in facilitating cross-learning among youth across South Asia and beyond, exemplified by initiatives like the towerorganics project, recognized in the Global Limitless initiative.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC has supported the Nepal Red Cross Society with the implementation of youth-led leadership capacity enhancement initiatives by providing technical and financial support.

It also provided technical and financial support to the National Society for youth-related initiatives, including the Paribartak Campaign and Y-Adapt trainings. This support involves the **British Red Cross**, **Italian Red Cross**, and the **RCRC Climate Centre**.

The IFRC's backed the National Society's in Road Safety initiatives facilitated by the Italian Red Cross and other youth-led projects supported by the **Danish Red Cross** and **Japanese Red Cross**.

## ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



### Strategic and operational coordination

#### IFRC membership coordination

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.

The in-country participating National Societies include the **American Red Cross**, **British Red Cross**, **Danish Red Cross**, and **Finnish Red Cross**. Moreover, the IFRC supported the National Society with humanitarian and development efforts regionally, deploying personnel to Vanuatu, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Pakistan, and Micronesia.

#### Movement coordination

The National Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly-adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

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.

#### External coordination

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 Centre 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.



## National Society Development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Nepal Red Cross Society endorsed its consolidated National Society development plan after extensive planning based on assessments and evaluations. The plan focuses on nine thematic areas such as strengthening financial and PMER-IM systems.

The National Society also focused on ongoing advocacy efforts for a Red Cross Law, which was continued amidst its governance transitions and statutory renewals.

The National Society continued its work on the Red Cross Law with the IFRC Compliance and Mediation Committee (CMC) which visited Nepal in April 2023 and met with all concerned stakeholders.

### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** supported the Nepal Red Cross Society with local branch development, guided by the National Society Development team.

New partnership modalities were further initiated, such as flexible funding in Lamjung District and health projects in Karnali and Lumbini provinces, supported by the **British Red Cross**, **Finnish Red Cross**, and the **Swiss Red Cross**.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

A key focus for the Nepal Red Cross Society's policy engagement with authorities in 2023 was its 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 worked to 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.

### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** along with participating national societies continued to support the Nepal Red Cross Society's visibility and reputation with Nepal's diplomatic community, donors, authorities, and other key external audiences. It also leveraged key events and successful operations through local and international media to amplify the Nepal Red Cross Society's presence and showcase community testimonies of resilience. Highlights include videos on anticipatory action, exposure stories, and WASH initiatives. The IFRC network also supported the Nepal Red Cross Society in strategic policy advocacy efforts, including the Red Cross Law, inclusive anticipatory action, nature-based solutions, and youth engagement.



### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Nepal Red Cross Society staff continued to provide Information Technology (IT) support to IFRC and its seven integrated member National Societies. This included the office set up and maintenance, support on Office 365, technical trainings as well as support for specific events (such as the Coordination Assessment Planning (CAP) training in June 2023). In addition, it received support with Office 365 maintenance, mobile data collection training facilitation, etc. The IT focal point also contributed to the global service desk as a member of the FTS support. Digitalization efforts also included recording volunteer data and warehouse stocks in the Management Information System.

### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** has actively supported a culture of risk management to improve accountability and compliance in the Nepal Red Cross Society. Specific compliance trainings were conducted across districts where IFRC implemented temporary operational modalities during the Nepal Red Cross Society's transition.

In digital transformation, IFRC supports the Nepal Red Cross Society in disaster management and blood transfusion services digitalization. It also aids district chapters' digitalization efforts and contributes to anticipatory action initiatives and youth engagement campaigns. Enhanced partnership and joint programming with IFRC members further streamline humanitarian efforts, aligning with the Agenda for Renewal and Unified Planning.

The IFRC also improved gender and diversity in recruitment and day-to-day management, with a current staff count of 63 (37 men and 26 women).



## 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

- **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 Nepal 2023 Financial Report](#)

**Note:** For emergencies for which financial report is not yet available, see: [MDRNP016](#)

- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [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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