



MALAYSIA

2023 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

30 October 2024

IN SUPPORT OF THE MALAYSIAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED

Disaster and Crises



12,707

Health and wellbeing



19,032

Migration and displacement



6,855

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	6.4M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding: 519,000
		Expenditure: 471,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement: 4.7M
		Funding: 19M
	Expenditure: 11.6M	
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement: 700,000	
	Funding: 242,000	
	Expenditure: 242,000	
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement: 1M	
	Funding: 1.9M	

Malaysian Red Crescent Society

Overview







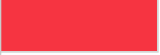



Funding Sources



Appeal number **MAAMY002**

In addition to: CHF 122,000 DREF Funding

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 13,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	38
	Percentage of humanitarian assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	22%
Health and wellbeing	People donating blood	 18,000
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	 19,000
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	 13,000
	People reached with immunization services	 11,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	 18,000
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	 7,000
Migration and displacement	Advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes
	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	 7,000
Values, power and inclusion	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	5
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	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

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support						Multilateral Support
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
Australian Red Cross	564,000			●				
German Red Cross								✓
Italian Red Cross	143,000		●					
New Zealand Red Cross								✓
Norwegian Red Cross							●	
Saudi Red Crescent Authority				●				
Singapore Red Cross Society			●	●				
Swiss Red Cross								✓
Turkish Red Crescent Society								✓

Total Funding Reported **CHF 707,000**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

In early 2023, Malaysia experienced severe flooding due to the northeast monsoon, displacing over 113,180 people and causing four fatalities across seven states, including Kelantan, Terengganu, and Johor. Shortly after, a heat wave hit in April, with temperatures reaching 38.4°C, leading to the deaths of two children and the suspension of outdoor school activities. Meanwhile, by May, the country saw a 170% surge in dengue cases, totaling 43,619, with 28 deaths, alongside 131 chikungunya cases, prompting the Ministry of Health to activate a Dengue monitoring portal. In May, after the WHO downgraded COVID-19 as a global threat, Malaysia declared the virus endemic, revising its SOPs and easing mask mandates by mid-June. At the same time, the country continued to be a major destination for migrants, with 2.2 million documented workers and 181,560 registered refugees, primarily from Myanmar, reflecting consistent migrant needs compared to the previous year.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

The Malaysia Red Crescent Society has made advancements in 2023 by enhancing staff and volunteer capacity in resilience and natural solutions. In May, they participated in Regional Training of Trainers for the Road Map to Community Resilience via enhanced Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (R2R via [eVCA](#)) and Working with Natural Based Solutions (NBS), organized by the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office. Additionally, they are forming a partnership with WWF Malaysia, following a global agreement between IFRC and WWF, with an MoU expected in early 2024. In response to the potential El Niño impact, the Malaysia Red Crescent Society is collaborating with MetMalaysia, NADMA, and the Department of Water and Irrigation to develop a simplified [early action protocol](#) for floods and heatwaves, planned for 2024.

Disasters and crises

The Malaysia Red Crescent Society has made significant progress in disaster [preparedness for emergency response](#). From December 2022 to March 2023, they implemented flood relief operations, supported by a CHF 500,000 DREF allocation from the IFRC and local fundraising, successfully concluding by June 2023. In early 2023, they secured funding from QBE Insurance and NADMA, launching [Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction \(CBDRR\)](#) projects in Kelantan, with a MYR 1 million year-long project set to begin in Q3 2023. The IFRC Malaysia delegation helped them obtain EUR 50,000 from the Italian Red Cross to enhance their Humanitarian Field School. Despite delays in finalizing [Cash and Voucher Assistance \(CVA\)](#) procedures, a newly appointed coordinator was deployed to Vanuatu to support CVA activities, improving preparedness. Efforts to strengthen their Emergency Operations Centre included training staff and collaborating with government agencies like NADMA and MetMalaysia. Additionally, they forged a partnership with the Malaysian Armed Forces, leading to participation in the Five Power Defence Arrangements exercise in October 2023.

Health and wellbeing

In the first half of 2023, the Malaysia Red Crescent Society continued its COVID-19 vaccination efforts, vaccinating 4,859 people and engaging over 20,000 through Risk Communication and Community Engagement activities, supported by AUD 765,375 in funding from the Australian Government via the Australian Red Cross, with the project extended to September 2023. The Society successfully concluded its COVID-19 response in December 2022 and contributed to a global lessons learned exercise. Mobile clinics, funded by the International Committee of the Red Cross, provided healthcare to 4,859 migrants and vulnerable families. The Singapore Red Cross supported mental health, psychosocial, and WASH interventions during Johor's flood response. A USD 1.8 million "Stockpile" project, funded by the Japanese Government, was approved, along with CHF 17,000 from the Japanese Red Cross for two WASH trainings. The Society also plans to develop an [Epidemic Preparedness Plan](#) with the Ministry of Health, starting with a workshop in Q3 2023.

Values, power and inclusion

The Malaysian Red Crescent Society has made notable achievements in the area of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) in the first half of 2023. They conducted several trainings for staff and volunteers, including Child Protection, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), and general PGI awareness, with the latter two being presented at the National Council meeting in June 2023. The Society applied a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis to their flood response activities and plans to integrate this analysis into all future programming. Additionally, they submitted a proposal to Prudential through the IFRC for a pilot project on Safe Steps Kids (SSK), to be rolled out in schools with CHF 10,000 in funding, starting in Q3 2023. The Society is also exploring the “Edu Plus” project, which aims to introduce a humanitarian education curriculum in selected schools, expected to begin in Q4. Moreover, the Malaysian Red Crescent participated in the Asia Pacific Youth Mobilization Summit in Kuala Lumpur, engaging with organizations such as the Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, and Duke of Edinburgh’s Award to exchange ideas and explore collaborative efforts to enhance their impact.

Enabling local actors

The Malaysian Red Crescent’s achievements include enhanced coordination with government bodies and international organizations, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC). The National Society secured Capacity Building Fund grants of CHF 50,000 to improve financial sustainability and resource mobilization, along with extending the Red Ready project on Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) until the end of 2023. It engaged with various ministries and agencies to strengthen its auxiliary role and humanitarian response, with consultant-supported mapping to improve these roles by late 2023. The Malaysian Red Crescent also advanced its digitalization efforts and improved its operational capacities through the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) review process and Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) exercises. Finally, the Society is working towards establishing a Compliance and Integrity Committee, aiming to launch an integrity hotline by 2024, enhancing its accountability and transparency.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

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

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malaysian Red Crescent started by developing the knowledge and capacity of its staff and volunteers in two areas, which are on the Road Map to Community Resilience through enhanced Vulnerability Capacity Assessments (R2R via electronic Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (e-VCA) and through Working with Natural Based Solutions (NBS). One staff and one volunteer participated in a Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) on R2R via e-VCA training and two staff and one volunteer participated in a Regional ToT Working with NBS training in May 2023. Following up on these training sessions, Malaysian Red Crescent trained staff and volunteers will conduct this training for more staff and volunteers in quarters three and four of 2023.

IFRC network joint support

With the support of the IFRC, Malaysian Red Crescent is in the process of setting up a potential partnership with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Malaysia in the areas of Climate Change and the Environment. This partnership is a follow up to

the Global Partnership between IFRC and WWF that had been signed in 2022.



Disasters and crises

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malaysian Red Crescent implemented emergency response activities for floods during the period between December 2022 to March 2023. The National Society received a DREF allocation from the IFRC of CHF 500,000 to support the affected states. At the same time, Malaysian Red Crescent also received funds from local fundraising in both cash and in-kind (amount not yet shared with IFRC).

IFRC network joint support

In 2023, the Malaysian Red Crescent, with significant support from the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), advanced several important initiatives aimed at strengthening disaster risk reduction and emergency response efforts.

The Malaysian Red Crescent received MYR 25,000 from QBE Insurance to implement community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) projects in Kelantan, with technical assistance from the IFRC Malaysia delegation. This pilot project targeted two communities and laid the groundwork for scaling up CBDRR activities in 2023. Additionally, the IFRC helped the Malaysian Red Crescent secure approval for a MYR 1 million proposal to expand its CBDRR efforts, which will be implemented over one year, starting in the third quarter of 2023.

Another key project was the Humanitarian Field School based in Kelantan. With EUR 50,000 in funding from the Italian Red Cross and support from the IFRC, the Malaysian Red Crescent conducted a market study and equipped the school to enhance its operational capacity.

Progress on the Malaysian Red Crescent's Cash Readiness plan faced delays, including the loss of a Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Coordinator in early 2023. However, with IFRC support, a new coordinator was appointed, and work on finalizing procedures and selecting a financial service provider resumed in the third quarter. To further build expertise, the new coordinator was deployed by the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office to support the Vanuatu Red Cross from June to August 2023, providing valuable experience for Malaysia's own Cash Preparedness Plan.

In collaboration with the IFRC, the Malaysian Red Crescent improved its Emergency Operations Centre with technical guidance and conducted training for staff and volunteers, with support from the IFRC Americas Regional Preparedness Centre and USAID. A follow-up training session is scheduled for July 2023. The National Society also built ties with the Malaysian Armed Forces, securing an invitation to participate in the national Five Power Defence Arrangements exercise in October 2023, further enhancing its response capacity.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malaysian Red Crescent continued its COVID-19 vaccination activities and vaccinated 4,859 people. This work was funded by the Australian Government through Australian Red Cross. The project also included Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities, that reached over 20,000 people, who received information and awareness of COVID-19 from the RCCE activities. The National Society has received AUD 765,375 to date as a funding commitment for this project and the work has been extended to September 2023. Malaysian Red Cross successfully closed its COVID-19 response in December 2022 and submitted its final report to IFRC. The National Society participated in the global lesson learning exercise on COVID-19, providing data on Malaysia to contribute to the research.

Malaysian Red Crescent is carrying out on-going mobile clinic activities targeted towards migrants and vulnerable families in Malaysia. This is funded by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for a total of CHF 100,000. This project assisted 4,859 people who all received relevant health services. During this project, the National Society

has been coordinating with different agencies, including Medecins Sans Frontier (MSF), the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), and other local agencies.

During the flood response, Malaysian Red Crescent also received support from Singapore Red Cross to provide mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) services to the flood affected people in Johor State and received water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) equipment to support the response in Johor.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC Malaysia delegation supported Malaysian Red Crescent in developing a proposal for a “Stockpile” project funded by the Japanese Government, with estimated funding of USD 1.8 million over two years. The project has been approved but is still pending the signing of an agreement between the IFRC and the donor.

Malaysian Red Crescent also received funding from the Japanese Red Cross through the IFRC APRO WASH unit, to conduct two WASH trainings in 2023, for a total of CHF 17,000 and the National Society will start these training activities in the third quarter of 2023.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Malaysian Red Crescent has been progressing with the development of its Migration and Displacement Policy. The National Society recruited a Senior Officer for Migration and Displacement, who is leading the Migration and Displacement agenda of Malaysian Red Crescent. The position is funded by both the IFRC and the ICRC, who are continuously providing technical support for Malaysian Red Crescent on its Migration and Displacement work. A Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Migration and Displacement working group continues to be active.

IFRC joint network support

The IFRC Malaysia delegation, with support from the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office Regional Migration and Displacement Coordinator, has facilitated links between the National Society and MSF Malaysia, to ensure a better coordination around migration support, particularly in the areas of health support.

The IFRC Malaysia delegation also continues to support the Malaysian Red Crescent Chairman in taking on more participation and involvement at both a regional and global level, such as in the Global Migration Leadership Working Group and the Regional Migration Network.



State Disaster Response Team member assisting during Malaysia Flood Operations 202. (Photo: IFRC)



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Malaysian Red Crescent gave specific attention to its [Protection, Gender, and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) work in the first half of 2023. A number of trainings were conducted to inform National Society staff and volunteers on PGI issues, including a Child Protection Training, a Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) training and a general PGI awareness raising training conducted by the IFRC's PGI technical focal point. The latter two trainings (on SGBV and PGI) were presented during the National Council meeting in June 2023.

In practice, Malaysian Red Crescent applied a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis to their floods response activities and will apply this Child Safeguarding Risk analysis to all their new programming activities.

The National Society submitted a proposal to the Prudential through the IFRC to set up a pilot project on the Safe Steps Kids (SSK) and to roll this out to schools. The project is expected to start in the third quarter of 2023, with estimated funding of CHF 10,000. It is also exploring the opportunity to pilot another programme, the "Edu Plus" project, where they would like to introduce a humanitarian education curriculum to selected schools in Malaysia.

IFRC network joint support

Malaysian Red Crescent participated in an Asia Pacific Youth Mobilization Summit in Kuala Lumpur, which was supported by the IFRC. This summit was attended by different organizations (the Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and Red Cross Red Crescent) to exchange their values/priorities and to discuss how best they can collaborate to maximize their impact.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Progress of the National Society against objectives

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.

Movement coordination

The Malaysian Red Crescent 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](#).

The [ICRC](#) Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur is closed. Nevertheless, it still has a few representatives in Kuala Lumpur. The Malaysian Red Crescent Society and the ICRC established a five-year partnership agreement for the period 2021 to 2026, to jointly cooperate in the areas of migration and restoring family links, and the overall development of the National Society, including its role as auxiliary to public authorities.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Malaysian Red Crescent Society works closely with a range of governmental bodies, particularly the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, and the Ministry of Health. During emergencies,

the Malaysian Red Crescent Society coordinates with the governmental bodies at both national and district levels. Foremost among these is the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), the lead agency for disaster response in Malaysia, under the Prime Minister's Office. Other governmental bodies involved typically include the Social Welfare Department and the Malaysian Civil Defence Force. The immediate response functions of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society include complementing the search and rescue operations by government agencies, and the deployment of staff from the national headquarters to support assessments and initial assistance to people affected.

The Malaysian Red Crescent Society received support from IFRC to establish connections with the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF), resulting in an invitation to participate in the Five Power Defence Arrangement exercise. IFRC provided technical guidance on engaging with MAF and preparing the National Society for its involvement.

With the support of IFRC, the Malaysian Red Crescent Society has engaged with humanitarian agencies such as Medecins Sans Frontieres Malaysia, focusing on migrant support to ensure the delivery of coordinated health services to migrants.



National Society Development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Malaysian Red Crescent received [Capacity Building Fund \(CBF\)](#) funding to help improve its financial sustainability and to develop a road map for resource mobilization. It received a total of CHF 50,000 from the Fund and the activities will be implemented through until the end of September 2023. The National Society has recruited a Resource Mobilization Manager and has fully funded this position.

Malaysian Red Cross received an extension of support for its Red Ready project on CVA until December 2023. The focus areas of this project are still as per the agreed seven themes of the Red Ready Framework. The National Society is also in the process of developing a new proposal for Phase III of the Red Ready project, which is proposed to be starting from January 2024 and running through to December 2025. The IFRC has supported all of the phases of this process.

The National Society also participated in a Global Communication Forum, in which the National Committee's Chairman of Communications and IT and the National Society's Communications Manager were profiled in this Movement Communications Forum. This engagement supported Malaysian Red Crescent to commit to improving its Communications Strategy.

IFRC network joint support

The Malaysian Red Crescent Secretary General has been briefed on the updated status of the [Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification \(OCAC\)](#) of the IFRC and the National Society has expressed its interest to review its OCAC status through an internal process to look into their current NSD activities, including those under the Red Ready project and the [Preparedness for Effective Response \(PER\)](#) framework and methodology. At the same time, the National Society is continuing with its [Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment \(BOCA\)](#) exercise, as part of its commitment on its Branch Development activities.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Malaysian Red Crescent is currently in the midst of conducting an auxiliary role mapping exercise in Malaysia, which is supported by an external consultant. The consultant recruitment was funded by both the IFRC and the ICRC. The consultant will help the National Society to review its current auxiliary roles and to make concrete recommendations to make the roles more relevant and effective in future. The work will be completed by the end of quarter three.

The National Society has actively started to engage with different Ministries, to brief them on the National Society's current auxiliary roles and on its work to provide humanitarian response activities in Malaysia. Some of the Ministries

and Agencies that the Malaysian Red Crescent has been engaged with include: the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Women, Ministry of Defence, and NADMA. This is part of the National Societies efforts to improve the government's understanding of Malaysian Red Crescent's roles and activities alongside and in support of those Ministries and Agencies.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Somali Red Crescent Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society has had several discussions with the IFRC's Membership and Governance teams to support its plan to form a Compliance and Integrity Committee, and to set up an integrity hotline. This is an ongoing process, with the aim to have an integrity hotline set up by the end of 2023 and to be in use by 2024.

Malaysian Red Crescent also received funding from the [Capacity Building Fund \(CBF\)](#) to support its work on digitalization, and to help it improve its levels of connectivity and digital communications.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Somali Red Crescent Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities.



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

- The financial report for the Malaysia IFRC network mid-year report is not yet available.
- [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](#)

Contact information

Malaysian Red Crescent Society
www.redcrescent.org.my

Alka Kapoor Sharma

Head of Delegation, Malaysia
IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific,
Kuala Lumpur

T +601 2225 1160

alka.kapoorsharma@ifrc.org

Robert Laprade

Head of Strategic Engagement
& Partnerships
IFRC Regional Office for
Asia Pacific, Kuala Lumpur

T +601 2204 3410

robert.laprade@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

Lead
IFRC Global Strategic Planning
& Reporting Centre

New Delhi

sumitha.martin@ifrc.org