



MYANMAR

2023 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

26 December 2024

IN SUPPORT OF THE MYANMAR RED CROSS SOCIETY



274

National Society branches



5,977

National Society volunteers



587

National Society staff

PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency Operations



817,396

Climate and environment



9,505

Disasters and crises



274,141

Health and wellbeing



109,864

Migration and displacement



19,277

Values, power and inclusion



3,086

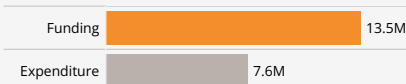
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

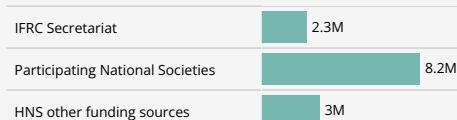
Country		Funding Requirement	
			32.4M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding Requirement	4M
		Funding	2.6M
		Expenditure	920,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	6.8M
		Funding	3.6M
		Expenditure	1.6M
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	7.5M	
	Funding	5.0M	
	Expenditure	4.8M	
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	14M	
	Funding	3.0M	

Myanmar Red Cross Society

Overview



Funding Sources



Appeal number **MAAMM002**

In addition to: CHF 3.5M Funding requirement for newly launched emergency appeals, CHF 242,000 DREF Funding*

ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRMM016 / Complex Emergency Operations

Displaced persons, migrants and host communities in vulnerable situations who receive appropriate humanitarian assistance and protection services	378
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MDRMM018 / Cyclone Mocha

People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	270,000
People provided with access to safely managed drinking water services or an improved drinking water source (according to context)	250,000
People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	21,000
People reached with shelter support	20,000
People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	20,000
People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	18,000
People reached with vector control in emergencies	12,000
People (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	2,000
People reached with first aid and pre-hospital care by trained RCRC volunteers or staff in a crisis, disaster or conflict	2,000
People trained by National Societies in first aid	479
People trained on implementing the PGI Minimum Standards	36
Litres of safe water distributed through RCRC emergency water supply (cumulative)	983,000
Number of surge missions or deployments	5
Volunteers involved in the response operation that have increased their skills in response and management of operations	295
The operation is informed by a needs assessment which includes information gathered from affected people	Yes
National Society has successfully articulated short-term emergency and NSD objectives with long-term NSD ones	Yes
National Society has identified learning mechanisms to assess the impact of the operation	Yes

Movement coordination mechanism is described and active	Yes
Logistics department provides constant support to the National Society's logistics unit for replenishment and other procurements	Yes
DREF / Appeal procedures are applied during the implementation of the operation	Yes

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	5,000
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	4,000
	Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?	Yes
Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	265,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	22,000
	People reached with shelter support	22,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	3,000
	Percentage of humanitarian assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	30%
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	285,000
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	51,000
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	28,000
	People donating blood	2,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	25
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	19,000
	Data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by RCRC educational programmes	3,000
	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	621
	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 formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	3
	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
	Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented	Yes
	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	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
	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	Yes
	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
American Red Cross	35,000							✓
Australian Red Cross	666,000			●		●	●	✓
British Red Cross								✓
Canadian Red Cross Society								✓
Danish Red Cross	5M		●	●	●	●		✓
Finnish Red Cross	996,000	●	●	●		●	●	✓
German Red Cross		●	●	●				✓
Italian Red Cross								✓
Japanese Red Cross Society								✓
Korean Red Cross								✓
Monaco Red Cross								✓
Netherlands Red Cross								✓
Norwegian Red Cross	3.6M			●				✓
Red Cross Society of China			●					✓
Singapore Red Cross Society			●			●		✓
Swedish Red Cross	1.8M	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓
Swiss Red Cross	422,000							✓
Thai Red Cross Society			●	●				

Total Funding Reported **CHF 12.6M**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

In 2023 Myanmar is grappling with a [protracted crisis](#) in which nearly one third of the population is in humanitarian need. With the humanitarian needs already large, in May 2023, a [Category 5 cyclone](#) made landfall in the country's coastal Rakhine State in the northwest and moved inland.

There are a range of factors that contribute to the situation of vulnerability faced by large sectors of the population. The February 2021 military intervention and subsequent decisions have generated an escalation of the people who require humanitarian support. At the start of 2023, [OCHA projected](#) that there would be 17.6 million people in need in 2023. By 1 January 2024, there were 2.6M internally displaced people (IDPs), 2.3 million of which have been displaced since 1 February 2021 ([UNHCR, Myanmar Emergency Update, 1 January 2024](#)).

The economic situation exacerbated humanitarian needs even for those not directly affected by situations of violence. People in Myanmar continue to be affected by currency devaluation, import restrictions, transportation challenges, decreased production and increased prices for goods in a demand-driven market. A [World Bank report](#) indicates that almost half of Myanmar households reported a decrease in incomes over the past year. Myanmar is the only Southeast Asian country that has yet to recover its 2019 economic indicators prior to the COVID pandemic. ([World Bank, Myanmar Economic Monitor, December 2023](#)).

Humanitarian access continues to be challenging for all humanitarian actors in the country. The [ACAPS Humanitarian Access Overview](#) of July 2023 placed Myanmar as 1 of 7 countries in the 'extreme constraints' category for humanitarian access.

Key achievements

In 2023, through the support of the IFRC network, the Myanmar Red Cross Society reached 691,668 people through emergency response and programmes in 17 States and regions. In addition to this, the National Society also carried out activities with funds from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN agencies and other bilateral, multilateral and private donors, as well as through its own funding deriving from income generating activities, reaching an additional 125,728 people – reaching overall a total of 817,396 people through this combined support. Its key achievements include the following:

Climate and environment

It carried out climate risk awareness and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities that in Mandalay, Rakhine and Sagaing. It conducted Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments ([eVCA](#)) in Mandalay and Sagaing for urban risk resilience and promoted climate risk awareness through campaigns on plastic use, tree planting and heatwave preparedness, including in schools. In Rakhine, the National Society carried out pond cleaning, improved water management and distributed eco-stoves. It is a member of the Anticipation Hub. The National Society submitted a simplified [Early Action Protocol](#) for urban heatwaves and worked on trigger systems for heatwaves and floods. It also engaged globally in the Asia-Pacific and global dialogue platforms and participated in the founding of the national anticipatory action technical group. It is also implementing [green logistics](#) focused on waste management.

Disasters and crises

It reached people in Bago, Kachin, Mandalay, Rakhine, Sagaing, Magway, Shan and Yangon, with actions in disasters and crisis and distributed cash across Kachin, Shan and Rakhine, supporting [disaster risk reduction](#) and health and water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)). It facilitated local disaster risk reduction through village committees in Rakhine and urban risk reduction in Sagaing and Mandalay, engaging local-level disaster management committees. Cash distribution supported mothers' clubs and village disaster committees in Shan, Rakhine, Mandalay, Kachin and Sagaing. The National Society also provided aid during a windstorm in Naypyitaw, including food, first aid and [Restoring Family Links](#) services. It responded to mid-year monsoon floods in Bago and Yangon and provided emergency assistance to those impacted by Cyclone Mocha in May 2023. It provided basic needs support and livestock training in Kachin, and regular programmes in Rakhine focused on WASH and disaster risk reduction. It drafted a comprehensive multi-year preparedness plan. Across multiple states, Myanmar Red Cross Society delivered in-kind aid, including food, shelter,

livelihoods support and in some locations, handmade children's clothing, while training programmes addressed mine risk awareness, [cash assistance](#), DRR awareness, early warning and early actions, early warning systems and school-based disaster risk reduction. Additionally, it strengthened Emergency Operations Centres, with three fully and six partially implemented.

Health and wellbeing

It reached people, some of whom received more than one form of health and wellbeing services in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Kayin, Magway, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan (North and South) and Yangon. The National Society implemented primary health care (reproductive, maternal, newborn, child health- RMNCH, mobile clinic) projects in Southern Shan, Northern Shan, Rakhine and emergency response locations. The National Society has been delivering various health services, primarily focusing on providing essential support to communities in need. These services include mobile clinics for primary health care, referral services, cash assistance and ambulance services. The National Society completed a Commercial First Aid project, conducted a market survey and developed a pilot business model to decentralize First Aid services across ten states. First Aid training was also provided to students entering primary school teaching roles. Alongside, the National Society began planning for a standardized ambulance service. Health awareness campaigns were conducted in Shan, Rakhine and Kayin, focusing on various diseases and non-communicable conditions. Malaria blood tests were offered in Shan as part of community-based health and first aid ([CBHFA](#)) efforts and primary health care projects particularly in reproductive, maternal and child health were initiated. A multi-year plan for mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)) was presented, with psychosocial support provided during emergencies. The National Society also planned for a MHPSS delegate mission to support training in psychological first aid. In response to Cyclone Mocha, the National Society implemented water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities in Rakhine and Magway, while long-term WASH programming continued in Rakhine and Shan through the Community Resilience Programme. The WASH strategy was also updated to enhance hygiene education and strengthen mainstreaming of cross cutting aspect such as PGI and CEA. The National Society began to conduct the training on Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies as an addition to the regular trainings of the Basic WASH and Emergency WASH.

Migration and displacement

It reached at least 19,277 people with sector-specific migration and displacement actions in Kachin, Kayah, Sagaing, Shan (East) and Rakhine and disseminated its migration and displacement policy through capacity-building training for staff and volunteers, integrating this approach into disaster preparedness and risk reduction. The National Society conducted missions in eastern Shan to gather information on migrant issues and provided assistance to returnees, including non-food items and birth certificate support. Displaced individuals in Kachin, Sagaing and Kayah received cash assistance and training in livelihoods and disaster management. The National Society reconnected with displaced local volunteers, supported ongoing humanitarian actions and participated in advocacy campaigns to increase humanitarian access in hard-to-reach areas.

Values, power and inclusion

It reached 3,086 Red Cross volunteers and schoolchildren with capacity building in Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse ([PSEA](#)) and Gender-Based Violence in Mandalay, Rakhine and Shan (Eastern and Northern). Additionally, it trained staff and volunteers to further integrate community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)) approaches in their work. CEA is included in National Society training modules (staff induction, branch capacity building, emergency WASH, Hygiene Promotion in Emergency and as a component of the Emergency Response Team – ERT training). Collaboration between PGI and CEA teams led to a feedback mechanism deployed during emergency operations. Leadership and staff also received basic disability inclusion awareness. Additionally, life skills training and training on Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change ([YABC](#)) were delivered with a strong focus on inclusion and diversity, with participation from youth leaders from across the country.

Enabling local actors

It conducted a comprehensive National Society Development (NSD) process to integrate results of several assessments (e.g. OCAC, PER, SAF focus group discussions, etc.) into a coherent framework to enhance complementarity among departments across the validated NSD priority areas for 2023-2025. The resulting NSD RoadMap was the reference to secure two grants aimed at enhancing branch development and decentralizing Commercial First Aid activities: IFRC Capacity Building Fund ([CBF](#)) and IFRC/ICRC National Society Investment Alliance ([NSIA](#)). The revitalization of the branch development process further enhanced internal coordination within the different levels of the National Society; 154 multi-sectorial capacity building activities for staff and volunteers were implemented across the whole

country and [youth engagement](#) efforts also strengthened. The National Society successfully implemented income generation activities and renewed focus on financial sustainability activities.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society enhanced external communications to promote its humanitarian mandate and established communication focal points in branches at all levels. It produced information, education and communication (IEC) materials for operations and provided social media training for its staff and volunteers. The National Society began revising its core structure, improving workforce planning and proposed changes to its salary scale and benefits. Additionally, it developed human resources guidelines and established a [safety and security](#) focal point network. The National Society launched a three-year [digital transformation](#) plan to improve its Information Management System, promote digital literacy and enhance its IT infrastructure at all levels.

Changes and amendments

The Myanmar Red Cross Society encountered challenges, particularly delays in international bank transfers, necessitating adjustments to project timelines.

Humanitarian access in Myanmar remains a challenge. The protracted crisis, a diverse array of actors and varying geographic conditions increase the need for localized advocacy efforts. The Myanmar Red Cross Society continuously strives to reach those in need while aligning its actions with the Fundamental Principles.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

1.

Emergency Appeal	Myanmar Complex Emergency
Appeal number	MDRMM016
Duration	26 months (01 February 2021 to 31 March 2023) * Complex Emergency ended on 31 March 2023 and this overview reflects achievements in the January-March 2023 period only
People to be assisted	202,000 people
Funding requirements	Through IFRC Emergency Appeal: CHF 4.5 million Fed-eration-wide: CHF 6.3 million
Emergency Appeal	Myanmar: Complex Emergency
Operational Strategy	Revised Operational Strategy
Latest operation update	Operation update No. 4

Myanmar has been facing a worsening humanitarian crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing political unrest since the military intervention in February 2021. Armed clashes and inter-factional tensions have displaced nearly 873,000 people, with severe violence, property destruction and limited access to basic services. The socio-economic situation has deteriorated, with inflation, job losses and soaring costs of essential goods, driving half the population into poverty by 2022. In March 2021, a DREF operation was launched to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society in responding to civil unrest in the country. Upon the National Society's analysis of the deepening humanitarian crisis, the IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal which was revised in April 2022, extending the operation for another year (to end on 31 March 2023) and renaming it a complex emergency to better reflect the composite humanitarian needs in Myanmar.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

Through this 26-month operation the Myanmar Red Cross Society reached 837,385 people with livelihood support, food distributions, multi-purpose cash grants, first aid and clinical services, household items and capacity building. Of that total, through the support provided by the IFRC network, it reached a total of 139,582 people through multi-sectoral support, including provision of emergency first aid services, basic health care services (including ambulance and mobile clinics), food, essential household items, cash distributions and psychosocial support, mainly in Magway, Sagaing, Yangon Regions, Chin, Southern Shan, Kayin and Kayah States.

From January to March 2023, planning was ongoing for cash and food distributions in Loikaw, Kayah State as well as Sagaing in Sagaing Region. Five different trainings for the Red Cross volunteers such as emergency responder ambulance training, migration and displacement training, communication training, safety and security training and capacity building training for branch leaders took place in Mandalay, Yangon, Naypyitaw and Northern Shan State. The IFRC provided programmatic support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society for the finalization of its planned response actions in April 2023 and conducted an external evaluation. Due to external factors, the activities in Loikaw and Sagaing were completed outside of the emergency appeal period, in April 2023 (and reported as part of the overall achievements of the National Society in 2023).

2.

Emergency Appeal	Myanmar Cyclone Mocha Emergency Appeal
Appeal number	MDRMM018
Duration	12 months (17 May 2023 to 31 May 2024)
People to be assisted	375,000 people
Funding requirements	Through IFRC Emergency Appeal: CHF 3.5 million Federation-wide: CHF 5 million
Emergency Appeal	Myanmar Cyclone Mocha Emergency Appeal
Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Latest operation update	Operation update No. 3

On 17 May 2023, the IFRC launched the Emergency Appeal Myanmar: Cyclone Mocha to address the urgent needs of communities in Myanmar affected by this disaster. Cyclone Mocha made landfall in Myanmar on 14 May 2023, bringing about destructive storm surges, heavy rainfall and flooding and affecting up to 1.2 million people. The most impacted regions were Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Ayeyarwady, Mandalay and Sagaing. The Federation-wide Emergency Appeal joined the resources from the IFRC and member National Societies to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society in the response to the extremely severe effects of Cyclone Mocha. The Myanmar Red Cross-led operation aimed to assist 37,500 people (7,500 households) across five regions in the country during a one-year timeframe.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The operation strategy focused on addressing immediate humanitarian needs and recovery for those affected by Cyclone Mocha, especially in Rakhine, Chin, Ayeyarwaddy, Magway and Sagaing regions. It aimed to meet shelter, health, basic needs and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) requirements during the emergency response, while incorporating livelihoods, migration and disaster risk reduction for short- to medium-term recovery. Key interventions included providing emergency [shelter](#), conditional and unconditional [cash assistance](#), health services, safe water distribution and enhancing protection, gender and inclusion. Community engagement and accountability and shelter cluster coordination were also prioritized for effective response and recovery.

By end of December 2023, with the support of the IFRC network, the National Society had reached a total of 298,232 people from 60,045 households with relief assistance, including safe drinking water, shelter (shelter toolkits, family kits, kitchen sets and blankets), cash for livelihoods, health services (mobile clinic, First Aid and ambulance service),

hygiene items (hygiene parcels, individual kits and dignity kits), hygiene promotion and multi-purpose cash assistance. A total of 672 Red Cross Volunteers responded to support affected people from five states and regions.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society strengthened its emergency response capacity by organizing training sessions on emergency medical response, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), community engagement and accountability (CEA) and first aid, among other key areas.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society carried out climate risk awareness and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities that reached 9,505 people in Mandalay, Rakhine and Sagaing.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society launched climate risk awareness initiatives, including campaigns on plastic use, tree planting and care and heatwave preparedness. Heatwave activities involved awareness messaging, training, simulations, post-distribution monitoring and a lessons-learned exercise. It carried out climate risk awareness and climate change mitigation activities in Rakhine State, that reached 5,175 people. These included pond cleaning, enhanced water management and the distribution of eco-stoves for cooking. The National Society also enhanced community and branch capacities through school- and community-based activities.

The National Society strengthened the capacity of communities and its branches to act on climate change issues through awareness-raising and community- and school- based activities, reaching 4,330 people. Additionally, it facilitated community-based Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCA) in Mandalay and Sagaing as part of its Urban Risk Resilience project. Community members were able to identify collective risks and capacities and thus plan to reduce and/or mitigate these.

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society engaged actively in Climate Action Myanmar Week and the Climate Action Network in Myanmar. The National Society also rolled out a [green logistics response](#), with activities focusing on waste management in offices and warehouses.

As a member of the Anticipation Hub since 2022, the National Society played a key role in [early action](#) and [anticipatory action](#), having a representative on the Early Action Protocol (EAP) Validation Committee. The National Society developed and submitted a simplified EAP for urban heatwaves for review in July. It also worked on trigger systems for heatwaves and floods with the help of a consultant and the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#). The Myanmar Red Cross Society also participated in the Asia-Pacific Dialogue Platform in Kathmandu, Nepal and the Global Dialogue Platform in Berlin, Germany. These fora enabled the National Society to both showcase and learn from the global anticipatory action community. Additionally, the National Society initiated discussions with anticipation practitioners in Myanmar to establish a national anticipatory action technical working group.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided financial support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in the development of [green logistics response](#). It also supported the National Society in carrying out [enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments](#) as well as [anticipatory action](#) initiatives.

The **Danish Red Cross** supported procurement of solar panels to improve the National Society's warehousing facilities.

The **Finnish Red Cross** and **German Red Cross** also supported the National Society in the implementation of anticipatory action initiatives.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society's health department in promoting the use of eco stoves among the population and distribution of essential items and focused on health impacts of climate change in Rakhine and Shan states.

The **Swedish Red Cross** provided technical support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in the development of the green logistics proposal, which was awarded Solferino Academy funds.



Disasters and crises

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

In 2023, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC DREF](#)) was approved for one flood emergency.

1.

NAME OF OPERATION	Myanmar Flood 2023
MDR-CODE	MDRMM019
DURATION	4 months (20 October 2023 to 29 February 2022)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 242,106
PEOPLE TARGETED	7,500
LAST OPERATION UPDATE	Myanmar Flood 2023

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 242,106 in October 2023 supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society in assisting over 1,200 households affected by extensive flooding central Myanmar's Bago Townships, Yangon and Mandalay regions. The National Society supported the affected people over a four-month period with provision of appropriate assistance including essential hygiene and household items and multi-purpose cash grants.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society reached 274,141 people in Bago, Kachin, Mandalay, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan and Yangon, with programmatic actions in disasters and crisis.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society reached 58,506 people with cash distribution across Kachin, Shan, Sagaing, Kayah and Rakhine. In supporting groups for [disaster risk reduction](#) and health including water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives, the National Society facilitated local-level disaster risk reduction through village committees in Rakhine, while its climate-smart urban risk reduction programme in Sagaing and Mandalay engaged ward disaster management clubs. In Shan State, cash distributions supported mothers' clubs and village disaster committees.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society provided food, first aid, ambulance services and Restoring Family Links ([RFL](#)) assistance during a heavy windstorm in Naypyitaw. The National Society also provided livestock training to people in Kachin. Basic needs support was also provided through regular programmes in Rakhine, with cash distributions supporting WASH and [community-based disaster risk reduction](#) as part of the Community Resilience Programme. The National Society responded to flooding in Bago and Yangon and drafted a comprehensive Preparedness Plan for 2022-2025. An annual pre-disaster meeting was held to assess needs and enhance operational preparedness.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society delivered extensive in-kind assistance to 174,684 people, including food distribution and non-food items, to communities in Shan, Magway, Sagaing, Mon, Rakhine, Naypyitaw, Tanintharyi, Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Bago, Kachin and Chin, reaching a wide population. Shelter materials were distributed to residents in Chin, Magway, Kayah and Kachin. The National Society also distributed handmade children's clothing, across multiple states and regions.

Additionally, the Myanmar Red Cross Society conducted training programmes that reached diverse groups, focusing on mine risk awareness, cash and voucher assistance ([CVA](#)), enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments ([eVCA](#)), early warning systems and school-based disaster risk reduction initiatives. Livelihood training was provided to individuals in Rakhine State, including livestock training for residents in Kachin.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society focused on strengthening Emergency Operations Centres (EOC), successfully completing three out of twelve planned EOCs and partially implementing six others. Additionally, it conducted a fleet management training. The Framework Agreement with the selected Financial Service Provider for cash distribution was also finalized.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in drafting a comprehensive Preparedness Plan for 2022-2025. The IFRC and **Danish Red Cross** provided support to the National Society in conducting a fleet management training.

The IFRC, **Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross** and **Thai Red Cross Society** supported emergency response operations, including emergency response funds. These were used for rapid implementation for the floods in Bago and Yangon and as part of the Myanmar Red Cross response to Cyclone Mocha.

The **Danish Red Cross** activated its Pre-Disaster Agreement to support immediate response to Cyclone Mocha. Additional Emergency Funds were mobilized to contribute to the National Society's Emergency Response Plan. Furthermore, a shipment of knitted clothing for children was donated by the Danish Red Cross to benefit the most vulnerable families across all regions of Myanmar.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** supported the National Society in Rakhine for the rehabilitation of health structures destroyed by the cyclone, conducted emergency response through mobile clinics and fixed primary healthcare centres (PHCs), as well as for the distribution of non-food items to the population.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by National Society against objectives

The Myanmar Red Cross Society implemented primary health care (reproductive, maternal, newborn, child health-RMNCH, mobile clinic) projects in Southern Shan, Northern Shan, Rakhine and in additional emergency response locations. The National Society has been delivering various health services, primarily focusing on providing essential support to communities in need. These services include mobile clinics for primary health care, referral services, cash assistance and ambulance services.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society implemented water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities as part of its long-term programming, reaching 31,092 people with various services including the distribution of sanitary materials, mosquito nets, educational materials on hygiene and cash to support latrine building and cleaning of ponds. Long-term WASH programming in Shan also provided latrines, water filters and hygiene promotion as part of community-based health initiatives. The National Society also updated its WASH strategy.

The National Society successfully completed its Commercial First Aid project, carrying out a market survey and developing a business model for the systematization and decentralization of Commercial First Aid across ten states and regions through a pilot study. In collaboration with educational institutions, the National Society provided First Aid training to graduating students entering primary school teaching roles. Additionally, planning commenced for a pilot project to standardize ambulance services.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society conducted over 1,660 health awareness campaigns covering first aid, non-communicable diseases, acute respiratory infections, dengue hemorrhagic fever, diarrhoea, hypertension, malaria and seasonal flu, reaching a significant number of individuals in Shan, Rakhine, Ayeryawaddy, Yangon and Kayin. The National Society also carried out follow-up activities related to transportation and future oxygen initiative actions after concluding the COVID-19 Emergency Appeal operation. In Shan, malaria blood tests were provided as part of the community-based health and first aid programme (CBHFA). The National Society executed primary health care projects, including reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, reaching a substantial number of individuals through health care.

The National Society provided First Aid awareness and training for communities and Red Cross volunteers (First Aid instructor training, Basic First Aid, Psychosocial First Aid, First Aid Training of Trainers, Community Based Health and First Aid). It also trained its staff and volunteers in Psychological First Aid (PFA), MHPSS and child-friendly spaces. In

collaboration with educational institutions, the National Society provided First Aid training to graduating students entering primary school teaching roles. Additionally, the National Society presented its multi-year plan for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and delivered psychosocial support in several locations, including during emergency response operations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Myanmar Red Cross for the implementation of primary health care projects.

This was also supported by the **Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross** and **Swedish Red Cross**.

The **Danish Red Cross** kept supporting a network of mother clubs across northern and eastern Shan states, providing seed funds to access maternal and reproductive health services. Mobile health clinic deployments were supported in order to respond to the complex emergency in north Myanmar. Support to the implementation of a 3-year MHPSS development plan was provided, including technical assistance and guidance, facilitation of trainings, as well as funds to establish Child Friendly Spaces in pilot locations.

The **Finnish Red Cross** supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society through an integrated community-based programme aimed at enhancing people's health and well-being. This programme focused on health education and promotion also disease prevention, facilitated and trained community volunteers and was further reinforced by incorporating WASH initiatives which increase target communities' access to clean water. Additionally, community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) and small-scale livelihood activities were supported through community-managed seed funds, providing a holistic approach to improving community resilience.

The **Japanese Red Cross** provided financial and technical support to the National Society in the standardization of its ambulance service.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** assisted the National Society by supporting three primary health care centres (PHCs) in Rakhine State, as well as three PHCs in northern Shan. It also supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society in establishing the ambulance system in these locations for emergency referrals.

The **Swedish Red Cross** supported the capacity building of the National Society WASH unit technically and financially.



Myanmar Red Cross volunteers providing emergency reliefs, drinking water and basic health care to Cyclone Mocha affected communities in Rakhine State, in May 2023 (Photo: MRCS)



Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society reached at least 19,277 people with sector-specific migration and displacement actions in Kachin, Kayah, Sagaing, Shan (east) and Rakhine. The Myanmar Red Cross Society emergency response actions responded to the humanitarian needs of internally displaced people through the operations and longer-term programmes. It strengthened its preparation and response actions in migration and displacement at the headquarter and branch levels. It conducted advocacy campaigns to increase humanitarian access, particularly to populations in need such as internally displaced people in hard-to-reach areas. This included meetings with local authorities, entities and diverse stakeholders. Standard actions included community-level awareness sessions and peer-to-peer resilience-building training in the southeast. Two missions were conducted in Keng Tong, eastern Shan and Tachileik, where the Myanmar Red Cross Society gathered information on migrant issues, including needs related to forced labour, human trafficking, smuggling and support for people with disabilities.

The National Society focused on disseminating its migration and displacement policy and strategy through capacity-building training for both staff and volunteers. It also provided assistance to returnees, including support for obtaining birth certificates and distributing non-food items. Emergency response actions addressed the humanitarian needs of internally displaced people, targeting this population across multiple sectors. In Kachin, the Myanmar Red Cross Society provided cash assistance to 7,567 displaced individuals and distributed non-food items such as kitchen sets, hygiene kits, dignity kits and family kits. The Kachin Special Operation also included training in livelihoods, agriculture, disaster management and basic first aid for displaced individuals. In Sagaing and Kayah, the National Society reached displaced communities with cash assistance. The Myanmar Red Cross Society distributed pamphlets and booklets on safe migration to provide information on risks and services available to migrants, returnees and communities.

The Rakhine Operations Management Unit (ROMU) supported the internally displaced population in Rakhine (Sittwe, Maungdaw and Buthidaung, Ponnagyun) with distribution of NFIs, cash and food parcels.

Additionally, Myanmar Red Cross Society re-established communication with displaced local volunteers and leadership and provided them with support to continue their humanitarian actions in the areas where they are currently residing with fellow community members who have also been displaced.

The National Society participated in regional and global discussions to enhance its humanitarian actions for migrants and internally displaced people. Furthermore, the Myanmar Red Cross Society actively participated in local-level coordination in the southeast and Rakhine. It strengthened communication with neighbouring National Societies around migration and displacement issues.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in strengthening its preparation and response actions. It provided support to the National Society in participating in local-level coordination in the southeast and Rakhine. Additionally, the IFRC supported the National Society reaching displaced individuals with cash assistance and disseminating information on risks and services to migrants and displaced communities.

The **Danish Red Cross** provided support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society through the pre-positioning of relief items (NFIs), as well as the provision of cash for livelihoods and training in agriculture and livestock, disaster management and basic first aid for displaced individuals.

The **Italian Red Cross** also supported the National Society in distributing information on safe migration to provide information on risks and services available to migrants, returnees and communities, as well as capacity strengthening.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** supported the National Society in integrating its preparation and response actions into ongoing operations related to complex emergencies. This included the prepositioning of the stocks (NFIs, Food parcels) and delivery of health service to the displaced population in Rakhine and Shan states.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society reached 3,086 Red Cross volunteers and schoolchildren with capacity building in Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Gender-Based Violence in Mandalay, Rakhine and Shan (eastern and northern).

The National Society also conducted training in community engagement and accountability (CEA) for its staff and volunteers. CEA is now included in National Society modules (staff induction, branch capacity building, emergency WASH, Hygiene Promotion in Emergency and as a component of the Emergency Response Team – ERT training). Collaboration between PGI and CEA teams led to a feedback mechanism during emergency operations.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society reached people through capacity-building initiatives in cross-cutting areas, including training in protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), protection against of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and prevention gender-based violence for its volunteers as well school children in Mandalay, eastern and northern Shan and Rakhine.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society organized basic disability inclusion awareness events for leadership and training for staff and volunteers.

The National Society also conducted life skills training for youth volunteers, focusing on inclusion, respect for diversity and personal resilience. Plans are underway to incorporate these initiatives with other youth-focused initiatives, such as Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC). Through a project named 'Youth for Humanity' it aimed to enhance youth engagement in Mandalay region to enhance youth digital literacy through a grant awarded by the Southeast Asian Youth Network (SEAYN).

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Myanmar Red Cross Society with financial support for its youth engagement projects. It also supported the National Society in integrating the PGI and CEA approaches across its interventions and operations.

The Danish Red Cross provided technical and financial support to the National Society in conducting training in PGI, prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation as well as prevention of gender-based violence. This initiative was also supported by the German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. The Danish Red Cross also supported life skills and leadership trainings in collaboration with Danish Red Cross Youth.

The German Red Cross provided support to the National Society in conducting session on community engagement and accountability for its staff and volunteers.

The Norwegian Red Cross supported the National Society in reaching communities, particularly women and elderly through the Mothers' Club and coordinating training in sexual and gender-based violence.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Progress by 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.

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society received bilateral and multilateral support from the following National Societies: **American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, the Canadian Red Cross Society, Red Cross Society of China, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, the Republic of Korea National Red Cross, Red Cross of Monaco, the Netherlands Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross Society, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross** and **Thai Red Cross Society**.

Movement coordination

The Myanmar Red Cross 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 Myanmar, **the ICRC** provides humanitarian assistance to people affected by armed conflict and internal strife. ICRC has been present in Myanmar for over 30 years, including in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine states. Its response is inclusive of emergency aid as well as long-term assistance. ICRC improves access to clean water, health-care facilities and better living conditions, promotes international humanitarian law and spreads education about risks related to landmines. It seeks to visit places of detention with an aim to secure better living conditions for all detainees, restore communication between them and their loved ones and reunite families.

External coordination

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society received support from the following United Nations agencies:

- The United Nations Population Fund – for support in mobile sexual and reproductive health care in Yangon and Northern Shan Regions
- The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) – for reintegration support in Kayin State and in the Tanintharyi Region for returnees, internally displaced people and host communities
- The United Nations Office for Project Services – for three projects for community-based tuberculosis care in Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyarwady, Magway and Southern Shan, as well as community-based malaria prevention in Southern Shan and general COVID-19 support
- The World Food Programme – for rice distribution
- The World Health Organization – for patient referral services in the Yangon Region

The Myanmar Red Cross Society shares information with other humanitarian actors and engages in coordination activities to avoid duplication of efforts and foster complementarity. At the national level, it is a member, as national organization, of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), with the IFRC and the ICRC being Standing Invitees in the HCT. As part of this, the IFRC actively contributed to the development of the HCT Localization Strategy for Myanmar. The National Society also co-chairs the emergency response preparedness working group, which is co-chaired by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA). As part of this, the Myanmar Red Cross Society facilitates information sharing which enables humanitarian partners to establish predefined roles, responsibilities and coordination mechanisms for emergency response.

The National Society also was co-chair for the cash technical working group; in this capacity, the National Society contributed to the development of a cash preparedness and readiness package, including capacity-strengthening, which is informed by risk assessments and information sharing between in-country partners. The IFRC also maintains observer status in the INGO Forum, a national-level platform that fosters coordination and partnership among international non-governmental organizations in the country.

As part of the IFRC support for the Cyclone Mocha response and as a lead of the [Global Shelter Cluster](#) in disasters, the IFRC deployed three rapid response members, the Deputy Shelter Cluster Coordinator and two rotations of the IM

Coordinator for the northwest. These efforts involved close collaboration with the existing UNHCR coordination team in the Shelter/ NFI/ CCCM Cluster, enhancing the Red Cross profile in strategic coordination among humanitarian actors.

The National Society also coordinates with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management for the provision of humanitarian assistance within Myanmar.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Over the past few years, the Myanmar Red Cross Society has conducted a series of institutional assessments and situational analyses, including the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification ([OCAC](#)) and Preparedness for Effective Response ([PER](#)). In early 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society initiated a comprehensive National Society development process aimed at creating a coherent framework for development, enhancing complementarity among departments and shifting towards a function-based approach.

This process involved validating National Society development priority areas for 2023-2025, mapping its functions and developing a plan incorporated into the 2024 Unified Plan.

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society secured two grants: the IFRC Capacity Building Fund ([CBF](#)) focused on systematizing the branch development process and enhancing accountability systems nationwide and the IFRC ICRC National Society Investment Alliance ([NSIA](#)) Accelerator grant aimed at systematizing and decentralizing Commercial First Aid activities.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society started the revitalization of its Branch Development Process, promoting internal coordination and drafting regional plans aligned with the Strategic Plan. It facilitated training sessions in digital volunteer registration for branch leaders and enhanced coordination with trained administrators. Efforts were made to systematize training pathways, including the initial development of a standard induction training for volunteers. It also initiated development training sessions in financial procedures and resource mobilization. Additionally, the Myanmar Red Cross Society started to localize into Myanmar language four courses from the IFRC e-Learning Platform to improve accessibility for staff and volunteers.

Throughout 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society revitalized its [youth engagement](#) efforts by strengthening youth networks at all levels, conducting a self-assessment of youth engagement and launching a first cycle of Youth Engagement Action Plans across all regions.

Financial sustainability initiatives included the development training sessions in financial procedures and resource mobilization policy dissemination. The National Society successfully implemented income generation activities and strengthened the resource mobilization capacity of its branches.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in coordinating the National Society development (NSD) process leading to the development of an National Society development plan based on previous assessments. Based on the NSD plan, the IFRC provided support to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in securing the IFRC Capacity Building Fund and the IFRC ICRC National Society Investment Alliance Accelerator grant. Technical support and strategic advice have been provided on all NSD priority areas, including on branch development, people management, financial sustainability and services management. The IFRC also supported the participation of new Myanmar Red Cross leadership in the Movement Induction course to ensure strategic and leadership orientation to leadership.

The **Australian Red Cross** supported the National Society in strengthening its resource mobilization capacities and on the overall NSD process and priorities.

The **German Red Cross** provided technical and financial assistance to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in strengthening its branches, including through capacity building of branch leaders and the implementation of Branch Organizational Capacity Assessments (BOCA).

The **Danish Red Cross**, the **Finnish Red Cross**, the **Norwegian Red Cross** and the **Swedish Red Cross** also focus on strengthening the capacities of branches in their project-related areas; additionally, **Danish Red Cross** has been scaling-up its support to youth engagement in MRCS and The **Norwegian Red Cross** has been financially and technically supporting the overall finance development of the Myanmar Red Cross Society.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross Society enhanced its external communications efforts to promote its mandate and auxiliary role, advocating at both national and regional level for access to provide principled humanitarian assistance.

It regularly updated its institutional social media accounts with audiovisual materials showcasing its humanitarian actions. The National Society is working on identifying and training communication focal points at all levels.

Additionally, the National Society engaged in humanitarian diplomacy to facilitate the more efficient crediting of international fund transfers and to obtain visas for its international partners seeking to support it in country.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society produced and distributed information, education and communication materials for its operations and provided social media guideline awareness sessions for staff and volunteers.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical assistance to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in improving its external communications efforts to promote its mandate and auxiliary role. It also supported the National Society in promoting its humanitarian mission and addressing concerns with relevant stakeholders. Additionally, IFRC supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society with proactive and reactive communication products to highlight its principled humanitarian actions.

The **Danish Red Cross** supported the National Society in improving its external communications efforts to advocate for access to provide principled humanitarian assistance.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Myanmar Red Cross Society initiated a process to revise its core structure and improve workforce planning. It started the procurement of an external service provider to support the core structure revision while it revised internally its compensation structure. The HR and Finance Task Force proposed changes to the salary scale and benefits, which were presented to leadership in December 2023. The National Society also developed its Human Resources development guidelines.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society continued to build the awareness, knowledge and capacity of staff and volunteers on safety and security through training sessions involving volunteers from the whole country. A safety and security focal point network was established for effective risk management.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society also produced a three-year progress report and carried out evaluations on key programmes. It deployed planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) staff for the Cyclone Mocha response and implemented a community feedback mechanism for humanitarian assistance.

Additionally, the Myanmar Red Cross Society launched a three-year digital transformation plan to enhance IT infrastructure and capacities and further develop its Information Management System. Initiatives included promoting digital literacy, assessing IT equipment and starting to develop its data protection policy.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Myanmar Red Cross Society with technical and financial assistance in procuring an external service provider for the revision of its core structure and technically supported the revision of the compensation structure. It also provided support to the National Society in strengthening the safety and security of its staff, its PMER capacities and MRCS digital transformation efforts.

The **Australian Red Cross** provided assistance to the Myanmar Red Cross Society to develop a proposal containing changes to the salary scale and benefits and is supporting the core structure revision efforts.

The **German Red Cross** supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society in its overall digital transformation.



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 Myanmar 2023 Financial Report](#)

Note: For emergencies for which financial report is not yet available, see: [MDRMM018](#), [MDRMM019](#)

- [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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