



NEPAL

2025 IFRC network country plan



Funding Requirement **CHF 15.3M**

13 March 2025

In support of the Nepal Red Cross Society



77

National Society
branches



8,319

National Society
local units



323

National Society
staff



146,524

National Society
volunteers

People to be reached



50,000

Ongoing
emergency
operations



242,000

Climate and
environment



248,000

Disasters
and crises



488,000

Health and
wellbeing



16,000

Migration and
displacement



206,000

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

- Karnali earthquake response
- Floods response

Longer-term needs

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

Capacity development

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

Key country data links

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Medium**

Human Development Index rank **146**

World Bank Population figure **30.9M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **20.3%**

IFRC Country Delegation Nepal, Kathmandu

Funding requirements

2025

Total 15.3M CHF

Through the Host National Society

1.6M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

5.5M CHF

Through the IFRC

8.3M CHF

HNS Breakdown

IFRC Breakdown

Ongoing emergency operations

3M CHF

Longer term needs

94,000 CHF

Climate & environment

300,000 CHF

Disasters & crises

520,000 CHF

Health & wellbeing

154,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

35,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

512,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

Longer term needs

285,000 CHF

Climate & environment

1.3M CHF

Disasters & crises

1.4M CHF

Health & wellbeing

100,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

1.2M CHF

Values, power & inclusion

1M CHF

Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

British Red Cross

Canadian Red Cross Society

Red Cross Society of China*

Danish Red Cross

Finnish Red Cross

German Red Cross*

Hong Kong Branch of Chinese Red Cross

Irish Red Cross Society

Japanese Red Cross Society*

The Republic of Korea National Red Cross

Luxembourg Red Cross

Malaysian Red Crescent Society

Red Cross of Monaco*

The Netherlands Red Cross*

Singapore Red Cross Society

Swiss Red Cross

**National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2024*

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeal:





















MDRNP016 Nepal Karnali Earthquake

Longer-term needs:

MAANP001

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

Participating National Societies* bilateral support for 2025

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
American Red Cross	722,000						
British Red Cross	1.3M						
Canadian Red Cross Society	245,000						
Danish Red Cross	1.6M						
Finnish Red Cross	414,000						
Irish Red Cross Society	125,000						
Korean Red Cross	261,000						
Swiss Red Cross	771,000						

*Participating National Societies who responded to the IFRC request for data

Total Funding requirement **CHF 5.5M**

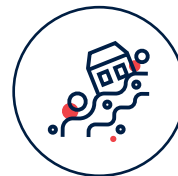
Hazards



Floods



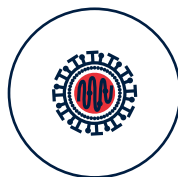
Earthquakes



Landslides



Drought



Diseases



Population Movement

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

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

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

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

In 2023, the Nepal Red Cross Society reached more than 4.2 million people through its long-term services and development programmes and more than 499,000 people through its disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

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

As per the Human Development Index, Nepal is ranked 146 out of 193 countries, with great disparities in human development. The caste system, despite its official abolition in 1962, still holds considerable influence, perpetuating inequality across social, political, and economic spheres. Despite the provision of constitutional and legal rights, factors such as power relations, ethnicity, physical access, and digital divide are still barriers to equitable economic development, particularly for women.

Nepal's economy is gradually recovering from the COVID-19 crisis, with GDP growth accelerating to 3.9 percent in 2024, up from 2 per cent in 2023.

Factors such as wider access to vaccines as well as normalization in economic activities in the absence of restriction, in particular in the critical areas of tourism, agriculture and remittances which are drivers of the economy have aided in the GDP growth. According to the multi-dimensional poverty index (MPI) of 2024, 20.1 per cent of the population in Nepal is multidimensionally poor while an additional 20.2 per cent is classified as vulnerable to multidimensional poverty.

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

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

Emergency Operation	Nepal Karnali Earthquake
Appeal number	MDRNP016
People affected	250,000
People to be assisted	50,000
Duration	16 months (4 November 2023 to 31 March 2025)
Funding requirement	Funding requirement through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 5 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 7 M
Emergency Appeal	Nepal Earthquake Emergency Appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Nepal Earthquake Operational Strategy
Link to Operational Update	Operational Update No. 4

On November 3, 2023, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck the Jajarkot district, resulting in widespread destruction of lives and properties. The disaster claimed 157 lives and left hundreds injured across 11 districts, with Jajarkot and Rukum West being the hardest hit. According to the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), approximately 35,321 households (176,605 people) were affected. Additionally, an estimated 250,000 people were at risk.

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

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

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The primary goal of the response operation is to meet the urgent needs of around 10,000 families (50,000 people) impacted by the earthquake, particularly in the hardest-hit districts of Rukum West, Salyan, and Jajarkot. The targeted individuals will be supported through an integrated approach, aiming to meet shelter, WASH, health, and protection interventions.

For the period [4 November 2023 to 31 March 2025](#), the following assistance is being provided:

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

Construction: The construction of office buildings of two Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) District Chapters is delayed and NRCS is in the tendering process. To complete this activity in time, IFRC will procure building material which will be donated to the district chapter in kind, while the labour costs will be borne by NRCS through other funding including contributions from municipalities. Out of 10 water schemes renovation works, seven schemes will be completed during the extended period. The construction of water schemes is delayed to difficult terrain for setting pipelines and will take longer time to complete than originally planned. Also, the construction of the Health Post prefab building in Jajarkot is in the tendering process and will be completed before March 2025.

Livelihood conditional cash grant: All 689 (IFRC-Wide data) households have received the first instalment and started their business. Out of them, 489 households have just started their business. According to the process for livelihood cash grant, the NRCS district chapter technical team needs to monitor the progress the quality of the businesses before the targeted households can receive a second instalment.

Livelihoods

The National Society reached people with conditional cash for livelihood support as well as various training on livelihood.

Health & Care

The National Society provided psychosocial support, Red Cross Emergency Clinic (RCEC) and health messaging and awareness campaigns.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

The National Society reached people affected through various activities on WASH such as toilet construction, hygiene promotion activities, and drinking water schemes among others.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

Events of CEA and PGI training were organized for District chapters staff and volunteers from three targeted districts.

Community Engagement and Accountability: The National Society shared its hotline number 1130 with all households in targeted communities of Jajarkot, Rukum West, and Salyan districts and NHQs focal person for collecting feedback from the community. In addition, the district chapters are mobilizing staff and volunteers in communities who are also collecting feedback face-to-face.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

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

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

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

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society has recently formulated a Climate and Environment Policy and Framework that provides a policy overview as well as an implementation framework. The policy aims to tackle three major challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation such as increasing the intensity, frequency and uncertainty of weather and climate-related hazards, shocks, and stresses (which also include epidemic and pandemic risks), ensuring that the

most vulnerable people have limited capacity to cope with and adapt to the changing weather and climate patterns, and mitigation measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to prevent global warming and adoption of greening and environment-friendly approaches.

The objectives of the National Society are:

- Undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises
- Adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

Planned activities in 2025

- Develop and implement climate checklists and inbuilt climate initiatives and activities in different programmatic areas to support the effective implementation of climate actions in programmes and services of the National Society
- Engage in urban planning to promote people-centred approaches to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change
- Engage with the Government of Nepal's respective ministries and departments at the national and provincial levels and other climate actors in policy dialogue aiming to establish the National Society as a major climate actor in the country
- Promote the concept of Green Response at a high level through meetings and workshops using environment-friendly communication materials
- Promote appropriate Indigenous and local practices and link with scientific technology for climate and environmental actions

- Initiate Youth and volunteer-led community awareness on climate change adaptation with advocacy for addressing the policy gaps.
- Support the government to address the plan, and policy guidelines gap, appropriately addressing climate issues and support for implementing such policies and documents in provinces and municipalities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society with capacity building of the volunteers and staff in effectively implementing the Climate and Environment Policy and Framework. It will further assist the National Society in planning and rolling out climate actions to implement climate-change mitigation measures and reduction of carbon footprint at all levels. Additionally, the IFRC will support the Youth Action for Climate (Paribartak Nepal) campaign and identify international/local resourcing for its replication and scale-up over the years.

The IFRC will continue to work closely and support the National Society in designing an integrated climate change adaptation plan and support the National Society to roll out the plan in more than 40 municipalities in different parts of the country. The IFRC will support the implementation of [Nature-based Solutions](#) (NbS) with partnership in other technically expert agencies, anticipatory actions for various hazards (floods, heat, cold, dengue, etc.).

The **American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** will continue to provide technical and financial support to the Nepal Red Cross Society through enhanced partnerships with international-level actors for resource mobilization and technical expertise. They will also assist with the development and rollout of [Anticipatory Action](#) plans and priorities, linking forecasts to community actions, in addition to enabling an environment for cross-learning.



Disasters and crises

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

Nepal is a highly disaster-prone country, experiencing earthquakes, floods, landslides, drought, hot and cold waves and vector-borne diseases on a regular basis. The [INFORM risk index](#) indicates that Nepal ranks 65 in terms of hazard and exposure as well as vulnerabilities and 53 in terms of lack of coping capacity. Records demonstrate that more than 40,000 people (8,000 households) are affected by different types of disasters every year. In most of the events, the affected population faces several challenges due to the impact on their houses, food stock, agricultural products, loss of lands and livelihood, and damage to water points and sanitation facilities.

Floods, landslides, and epidemics are recurrent disasters in Nepal whereas earthquake is a major risk as the country falls under a high seismic zone with several active fault lines. According to the history of [disasters](#), 5,614 events of floods and landslides have claimed 2,148 lives whereas 61,455 houses are damaged, and 80,405 households are affected. Out of 77 districts, 28 districts are highly vulnerable in terms of floods and 21 districts are vulnerable in terms of landslides. The floods and landslides affect most vulnerable communities in hills and plains every year whereas there is a high risk of [earthquakes](#) which is exacerbated by both the complex geological patterns of the country, the building practices in communities, as well as the remoteness factors and challenges around preparedness across sectors. Weak socio-economic

conditions as well as environmental degradation resulting from poor land use planning, uncontrolled urbanization, non-engineering/haphazard construction, river pollution, poor sanitation facilities, and solid-waste management are aggravating further risk and making communities more [vulnerable](#).

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

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

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

The Nepal Red Cross Society is involved in the [Early Warnings for All initiative](#) (EW4All), which aims to ensure everyone on

Earth is protected by early warning systems by 2027. In this United Nations-led initiative, the IFRC is the lead of Pillar 4 on preparedness for response to warnings and is also actively engaged in Pillars 1 and 3 of Disaster Risk Knowledge and Warning Dissemination and Communication. The National Society, with IFRC support, will be working with national authorities to coordinate Pillar 4 and implement activities.

The National Society aims to:

- Support the communities to take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards
- Meet the needs of the people affected by crises and disasters through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate, and flexible and strengthens their agency
- Provide shelter assistance to people affected by crises and disasters
- Offer food security and livelihoods to people affected by crises and disasters
- Offer multi-purpose cash grants to people affected by crises and disasters
- Respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and leverage its auxiliary role in emergency response
- Expand leadership in the field of disaster law and improve official/legal recognition of its auxiliary role

Planned activities in 2025

- Provide immediate humanitarian services by distributing relief items as per national standards to address their

need for health, shelter, WASH, food, and protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI)

- Support displaced populations to establish emergency shelters by managing shelters in pre-identified locations and providing shelter relief items
- Support targeted affected populations to restore their livelihood in the early recovery phase to meet their food requirements
- Provide unconditional multi-purpose cash for the targeted population as per national standards to meet immediate basic needs
- Develop inclusive risk reduction programmes and plans linked with the local government development planning process
- Enhance community institutions for disaster preparedness as well as the development of the first responders and prepositions of the response tools
- Support vulnerable families to strengthen/restore their adaptive and resilient livelihood

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical support for the Nepal Red Cross Society operation team to conduct post-disaster assessments timely and identify targeted beneficiaries within the stipulated timeframe outlined in the National Society response manual. It will further assist the National Society with strengthening coordination with government authorities at various levels and engage in the development/review/amendment of necessary policies, strategies, and guidelines.



The Nepal Red Cross Society staff conducted health session as part of the Karnali earthquake response operation, 15 April 2024. (Photo: The IFRC)

IFRC mechanisms such as the [Disaster Response Emergency Fund](#) (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2023, IFRC provided EA allocations for the [Karnali Earthquake](#).

The **American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross Society, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** will further assist the National Society with strengthening donor relationships and generating resources



Health and wellbeing

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

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

Nepal currently faces a double burden of disease, as highlighted by the [Global Burden of Disease study](#), with 59 per cent attributed to non-communicable diseases, 31 per cent to communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases, and 10 per cent to injuries. Road traffic accidents have also posed a significant public health concern, with

for the implementation of risk reduction, and community resilience programmes. They will provide technical support with multi-hazard risk assessment and inclusive risk reduction planning, promote local resource mobilization, and provision of emergency funds. In addition, the participating National Societies will also promote risk knowledge, school safety, road safety and awareness-raising initiatives, ensuring access to the most vulnerable groups (in local language, disability friendly, communities with low level of education).

54,000 recorded accidents between [2014](#) and [2022](#), resulting in 19,000 [deaths](#). These data suggest that while Nepal is successfully progressing in communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases, there is an increasing burden of non-communicable diseases and injuries in the country.

The country's health system has undoubtedly been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the long-term impacts on health cannot be overlooked. The sporadic measles outbreak in various districts of Nepal in [2023](#) underscores the need to strengthen basic primary healthcare delivery, including routine immunization services. Current data shows that 52 per cent of the children aged 12-23 months are fully vaccinated according to the national schedule while 4 per cent have received no [vaccinations](#).

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

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

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The primary objective of the Nepal Red Cross Society is to act as an auxiliary to the national health system to ensure support

and delivery of quality health services to vulnerable people and communities. The National Society will continue to strengthen its flagship programmes such as blood services, first aid, eye care, and ambulance services as a part of pre-hospital care. As indicated in the 8th development plan, the National Society will also focus on community health and emergency health in the coming years.

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

- Protect the health and well-being of communities and improve access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course
- Maintain the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks by providing access to appropriate health services
- Work to provide communities increased access to affordable, safe, and environmentally sustainable [water, sanitation, and hygiene \(WASH\)](#) services, especially during emergency settings
- Capitalize on its auxiliary role to ensure its position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy, and policy platforms and mechanisms

Planned activities in 2025

- Capacity build staff and volunteers on the competency-based framework and relevant health training packages for quality service delivery
- Upgrade, strengthen, and expand the prehospital care services including the ambulance service system with digital networking in line with national ambulance guidelines
- Capacity build and develop tools on community-based health and first aid ([eCBHFA](#)), mental health and psychosocial services ([MHPSS](#)), [first aid](#), blood

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

- Design water, sanitation, and hygiene ([WASH](#)) project focusing on multi-sector engagement for community-led total sanitation
- Apply a water safety plan in each constructed drinking water scheme contributing to a safe and sustainable water system
- Coordinate with stakeholders to identify and mitigate the public health issues impacting disadvantaged groups such as women migrants and displaced persons

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide technical guidance and support to the Nepal Red Cross Society for the development and update of relevant policies, strategies, and guidelines. In addition, IFRC will assist in strengthening coordination with government authorities at various levels to position the Nepal Red Cross Society in the health and WASH arena through continued engagement and coordination.

As part of its engagement in the [Global Taskforce on Cholera Control](#), the IFRC hosts the [country support platform](#) and provides technical support and capacity building across the five cholera intervention pillars of surveillance, case management, WASH, Oral Cholera Vaccination strategies, and community engagement. The IFRC also leads high-level advocacy engagements and events with national and sub-national government officials, global and local funders and implementing partners, to secure political and financial support for cholera control in priority countries.

The **Canadian Red Cross Society**, **British Red Cross**, **Danish Red Cross** and **Swiss Red Cross** will continue to support the Nepal Red Cross Society in the development of health policies, strategies and guidelines. The participating National Societies will also support quality services through different projects and programmes.



Migratory trends in Nepal are dominated by people leaving the country to seek foreign employment. Millions of Nepalis have travelled abroad for work and millions more have felt the direct impact of migration through the absence of family members and the influx of remittances. According to the recent data of the [Department of Immigration](#), in August 2024 more than 136,948 Nepalese left Nepal out of which most of them were for foreign employment. This data is complemented by the data of more than [1,700 people](#) travelling abroad for employment on a daily basis. According to the [Census 2021](#), a total of 2.2 million Nepalis are working abroad out of which 81.28 per cent are male and 18.72 per cent are female.

The large number of male migrations has a greater impact on [women in the communities](#) as they are left behind to look after their family including children and elderly family members as well as compelled to engage in other livelihood activities, including agricultural work by themselves.

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

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society is part of the IFRC's three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people annually across the world who are either on the move or living in host communities. It will do so through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through [humanitarian service points](#); (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The Nepal Red Cross Society has been supporting migrants for many years. It has a history of supporting Tibetan refugees, and Bhutanese refugees, providing health awareness to seasonal migrants from India, supporting the internally

displaced population and most recently, supporting migrants at the points of entry.

The objectives of the National Society include:

- Work to ensure that migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well as access to durable solutions when appropriate
- Engage with migrants, displaced persons, and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs

Planned activities in 2025

- Institutionalize National Society actions at points of entry, transit routes, and borders, based on previous lessons learnt
- Continue anti-trafficking initiatives as well as continued risk communication and stigma reduction campaigns at community and school levels
- Improve [Restoring Family Link](#) services where needed
- Continue providing protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and their host communities impacted by the recurrent disasters in the country
- Tackle climate-induced internal displacement, in particular in the urban areas
- Carry out need assessment to better understand the specific needs of migrants and displaced people, and to be able to mainstream migration- and displacement-related issues within existing programmes and services

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Nepal Red Cross Society in mainstreaming migration-related issues within DREF and appeals in coming years, in particular monsoonal floods and landslides. The IFRC will further assist the National Society with active engagement in the Global Migration Task Force and the Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN) as required.

The **British Red Cross** will assist the National Society through its support for the "Strengthening Actions for Fostering Resilience through Individual, Community and Institutional Readiness in Nepal ([SAFER Nepal](#))" project.



Values, power and inclusion

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

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

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

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

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

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

The Nepal Red Cross Society is engaged in the new RED Education flagship initiative of the IFRC network to make

education communities and facilities safer, more inclusive and resilient. This global effort seeks by 2030 to support 40 million children and youth, 1 million teachers and education personnel, in 100,000 schools and learning spaces, across 100 countries. It focuses on a three-fold approach:

- “Education Ready” for school-based anticipatory action and preparedness interventions (e.g., cash and in-kind assistance, comprehensive risk management, teachers’ training)
- “Education First” for immediate relief assistance to affected education communities (e.g., education kits’ distribution, set-up and running of temporary spaces, and psychosocial support)
- “Education Forward” for recovery measures and longer-term development activities (e.g., schools’ reconstruction, retrofitting and greening; cash and in-kind assistance for education access and continuity; set-up and running of RED education facilities and clubs)

Objectives of the National Society include:

- Reducing gender and diversity-based inequalities and all forms of discrimination at all levels through the implementation of the [PGI minimum standards](#) (focusing on Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety) at institutional, programmatic and service levels
- Mainstream its Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) Policy with a view to incorporate CEA approaches into all services and initiatives
- Contributes to a positive change in communities through wider understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of [Fundamental Principles](#) and humanitarian values, focusing especially on young people’s knowledge, skills and behaviour
- Promote and support safe, equitable, and continuous access to quality education for all, especially boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis, or displacement
- Become a safe and inclusive network, ensuring dignity, access, participation, and safety for people of all identities
- Empower people and communities, vulnerable to and affected by crises, to influence decisions affecting them and trust the IFRC Network to serve their best interest

Planned activities in 2025

- Prioritize the advocacy and promotion of women’s participation in the constitution, policies, and strategy to ensure at least 40 per cent and above women’s representation in leadership and decision-making and

promote 50 per cent participation of women and other marginalized and excluded groups at the implementation level

- Strengthen the safeguarding system within the organization with adequate support/service and mechanisms including child protection and anti-harassment
- Take action and intervention for people with disabilities, unaccompanied children and child labourers, migrants, elderly people, LGBTIQ+ community including the women in prison, brick stations, and survivors of sexual- and gender-based violence
- Strengthen the existing feedback handling mechanism of the National Society including Radio and Hotline-1130.
- Disseminate community feedback handling guidelines at the organizational level
- Continue the rollout of Y-ADAPT, youth-led climate action, road safety, and cyber education

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** supports the Nepal Red Cross Society to disseminate the fundamental principles and humanitarian values among youths, communities, and decision-makers. Youth volunteers will be supported to continue ongoing youth-led climate actions aiming to bring positive change in communities. Technical and financial support for youth-led education and action has been scaled up, building on the Youth Engagement Strategy and other youth-led initiatives including Y-Adapt, road safety, and first aid among others. The IFRC will further provide technical support to strengthen the feedback handling mechanism and enhance the capacity of the National Society on IEC and key message development and dissemination through varied mediums.

The **Danish Red Cross** will assist the National Society with the development of PGI/CEA mainstreaming to integrate them as a cross-cutting theme (development and emergency response/operation) including anticipatory action.

The **British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** will also support the Nepal Red Cross Society with its objectives.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Nepal Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing its institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC's Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2014. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Nepal Red Cross Society is also committed to the IFRC Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is currently in the work plan phase. The PER Approach is a continuous and flexible

process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze strengths and gaps in preparedness and response mechanisms and ultimately take necessary action to improve.

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



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Increase cooperation and coordination with external partners to address major challenges facing communities
- Enhance membership coordination and effectiveness in humanitarian actions, and shifting the mindset towards a Federation-wide leads to increased trust within the network
- Fulfil its priorities for Movement Coordination and Cooperation, as outlined in the Council of Delegates meeting in 2019
- Ensure effective shelter cluster coordination with partners inside and outside the network
- Effectively increase its financial resources, both through domestic fundraising and providing greater international support to National Societies

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the positioning of the Nepal Red Cross Society with national authorities in line with its auxiliary role and mandates. It will work collectively with shelter cluster members to review and update shelter cluster-related plans, strategies, guidelines, and tools. Additionally, the IFRC will assist the National Society with joint resource mobilization processes (in particular on climate action), further rolling out the [Early Warning for All](#) campaign.

The **Danish Red Cross** will support the National Society in co-chairing the community of practice on [Anticipatory Action](#). In addition, the **British Red Cross** will assist the Nepal Red Cross Society with the three-year cash preparedness capacity enhancement project.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Continue as a network of relevant local organisations who are the trusted partners of choice for local humanitarian action with the capabilities to act in the global network
- Prioritise volunteering development and youth action as critical catalysts of behavioural change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will assist the National Society with the provision of technical and financial resources in support of the law formulation and advocacy process. A key vector for IFRC support is the “*Paribartak*” climate campaign led by youth launched in late 2022 which will continue to be supported and scaled up, with a new focus on local resource mobilization, aiming to ensure it is fully institutionalized and domestically funded by the end of 2025.

The **British Red Cross** will assist the National Society through the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre support on youth and climate change capacity-building and training.

The **Danish Red Cross** will support the Nepal Red Cross Society’s National Society development as part of the ICE Project in Lamjung.

The **Japanese Red Cross** will support the WASH efforts of the National Society in addition to assisting with the youth/schools under the Disaster Risk Reduction project.

The **Swiss Red Cross**, alongside the **Danish Red Cross** and **British Red Cross**, will assist the National Society with planned projects such as conducting the BOCA process and supporting initiatives in line with its recommendations, enhancing local resource mobilization skills, and conducting leadership orientations as relevant.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Promote its image and advocate for change, affecting public behaviour, policies, and decisions on a domestic, regional, and global scale

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will assist the Nepal Red Cross Society with high-level engagement with the Government of Nepal, the diplomatic community, donors, and the United Nations. It will also support the National Society in leveraging its mandate to contribute to policies and plans of the government, in particular in Disaster Risk Management (member of the Executive Committee and

local disaster management committees, co-chair of shelter cluster, Secretariat of the community-based disaster risk management platform, and pillar lead-EW4All among others) and health (privileged relationship on blood transfusion, pre-hospital care, and vaccination).

Participating National Societies will further support the National Society in developing case studies and policy recommendations related to projects and programmes where each National Society has expertise. The **Danish Red Cross** will assist with anticipatory action, the **British Red Cross** with Nature-Based solutions, the **Finnish Red Cross** with early-warning systems, and the **Swiss Red Cross** and **Canadian Red Cross Society** will assist with health.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Work as a global accountable network
- Undergoes a digital transformation
- Use innovative and transformative approaches to better anticipate, adapt to, and change for complex challenges and opportunities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Nepal Red Cross Society in investing in the capacity building of all IFRC and

Participating National Society staff members, starting from complying with compulsory training and proposing in-house or external training opportunities to staff members as per their agreed personal development plans. The IFRC will also support the National Society in finance development and digital transformation for resource tracking, mobilization, and reporting efficiently.

The **American Red Cross** has past information management expertise and is interested in contributing as well.



The Nepal Red Cross Society volunteers interacted and supported families affected by the earthquake in Doti district, 24 February 2023. (Photo: The IFRC)

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

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

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Nepal Red Cross Society through numerous Emergency Appeals and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) operations in relation to earthquakes, floods, and epidemics.

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

IFRC Membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contributing to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In Nepal, there is a strong focus on strengthening cooperation and engagement within the IFRC membership, to ensure a participatory and collective planning process with the Nepal Red Cross Society at the centre. All in-country partners provide coordinated support across several initiatives, including a three-year cash preparedness initiative established in mid-2021, bringing together the American Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and the IFRC. The IFRC has also harnessed the expertise of the Danish Red Cross and the IFRC's Climate Centre to support the Nepal Red Cross in strengthening its annual monsoon preparedness and response activities.

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

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

The **British Red Cross** coordinates with the Swiss Red Cross to support the National Society in Nepal to deliver integrated programming in Lumbini and Karnali. It also supports climate-smart water, sanitation and hygiene activities with the Finnish Red Cross and the IFRC, as well as livelihoods, cash and voucher assistance preparedness, migration, and community engagement.

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

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

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

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

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

Movement coordination

The Nepal 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 Nepal, **the ICRC** focused on support for Restoring Family Links and for government efforts to develop truth and reconciliation mechanisms related to the internal conflict that ended in 2006. It supports the Nepal Red Cross Society, local government and other bodies to boost their emergency capacities and promotes international humanitarian law. The ICRC carries out most of its work in coordination with the National Society. Nepal is covered by the ICRC regional delegation in India.

Coordination with other actors

As such, the Nepal Red Cross Society's shelter cluster 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.

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

The Nepal Red Cross Society also has a long-standing partnership with 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 the 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 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 16 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.

About the plan

The plan reflects the priorities of the host National Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2025 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC [Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities
- Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2025 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-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) 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
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

Additional information

- [IFRC network country plans](#) • [All plans and reports](#)
- Data on National Societies on [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Live data on active emergency operations on [IFRC GO platform](#)
- Live data on [IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars](#)
- [Evaluations and research databank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

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