



# BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

2024 IFRC Network Mid-Year Report, January – June

15 April 2025

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BRUNEI DARUSSALAM RED CRESCENT SOCIETY



4

National Society  
branches



4

National Society  
local units



1,780

National Society  
volunteers



1

National Society  
staff

## PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and  
environment



1,000

Disasters  
and crises



1,000

Health and  
wellbeing



10,000

Values, power  
and inclusion



1,000

Data not available at time of publication

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement	345,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	25,000
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	320,000
		Funding	Not reported

### Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society

#### Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

#### Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

Appeal number **MAABN001**

\*Information on data scope and limitations is available on the back page

## ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	National Society increases the number of government led platforms in which they are actively participating to achieve humanitarian or development goals.	0
	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of.	0
	Number of National Societies where a Federation-wide approach is used for planning, monitoring and reporting the impact of the IFRC network.	1
National Society development	Percentage of humanitarian assistance provided in-kind.	100

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Brunei Darussalam is located on the northwestern coast of the island of Borneo, neighbouring East Malaysia and the Kalimantan provinces of Indonesia. As of the year 2021, Brunei Darussalam's [population](#) was approximately 440,715 individuals, making it the country with the lowest population in Southeast Asia. The fertility rate within Brunei Darussalam has been steadily declining over the last few decades. Between 2001 and 2011, the fertility rate was recorded at 1.7 per cent, which further decreased to 1.1 per cent in the year 2021. This declining trend suggests a potential shift in family planning and demographic dynamics within Brunei Darussalam. Brunei Darussalam's population is characterized by a gender distribution of 52.7 per cent men, comprising approximately 232,194 individuals, and 47.3 per cent women, accounting for an estimated population of 208,521 individuals.

Brunei Darussalam spans over 5,765 square kilometres and is divided into four districts, namely Brunei Muara, Belait, Tutong, and Temburong. Brunei Muara is the most populous, with approximately 72 per cent of the nation's population residing within its boundaries. Despite being characterized as a small country, Brunei Darussalam is classified as a [high-income country](#) with GNI per capita of USD 31,410 in 2022, the second highest in the ASEAN. The country's economy primarily relies on the oil and gas sector, which accounts for nearly 90 per cent of its export revenue. As of 2022, Brunei reported an [unemployment rate](#) of 5.2 per cent, which marked an increase from the 4.9 per cent recorded in 2021.

Brunei Darussalam operates as an absolute monarchy, where executive authority is concentrated in the Sultan, who holds full political control. The legal system in the country is based on the English common law and Islamic law.

Brunei's commitment to continue prosperity and stable macroeconomic growth is underscored by [Wawasan 2035](#), the government's national vision. *Wawasan 2035* provides for the promotion of investments both in downstream industries and economic clusters beyond the oil and gas industry.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

Brunei Darussalam is currently experiencing the southwest monsoon, characterized by stable atmospheric conditions and occasional heavy thunderstorms. Despite these conditions, the country faces warm, even hot weather, often followed by sudden evening showers, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses. In response, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society (BRC) has been actively promoting safety guidelines through social media. BRC aligns with the Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy, which aims to reduce carbon emissions, enhance carbon sinks, and strengthen climate resilience.

### Disasters and crises

In May 2024, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society distributed food donations to victims of a fire in Kampung Setia B, thus contributing to community engagement and crisis response. BRC also mobilized trained First Aid personnel during emergencies, which led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the national government to standardize First Aid training, incorporating Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS).

### Health and wellbeing

The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society organized a successful blood donation drive on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2024 in partnership with Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC) and McDonald's. Additionally, BRC's integration of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) into First Aid training highlights the Society's commitment to mental and physical health.

### Enabling Local Actors

To enhance its role as an auxiliary to public authorities, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society actively builds and maintains partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders. This includes collaborations with government bodies such as the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) to promote first aid, as well as partnerships with neighboring National Societies like the Indonesian Red Cross and Singapore Red Cross. Furthermore, BRC underwent a leadership shift for 2024-2028, with plans to develop a new Strategic Plan, drawing on best practices from sister National Societies with assistance from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

## Changes and amendments

BRC underwent internal changes within their leadership structure. In January 2024, BRC elected and appointed the new President and Secretary General for 2024-2028. However, in May 2024 there was another restructuring, of which BRC appointed new Secretary General and Governing Board for 2024-2029.

## IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



#### Climate and environment

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

In response to the current southwest monsoon, Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society has been proactive in addressing the challenges posed by the unpredictable weather patterns, including hot weather followed by sudden evening showers. The National Society has been encouraging communities to take preventive measures by providing safety guidelines through its social media platforms. These efforts align with Brunei Darussalam's National Climate Change Policy, which focuses on reducing carbon emissions, increasing carbon sinks, and strengthening climate resilience. This proactive approach demonstrates the National Society's commitment to promoting public awareness and mitigating risks associated with the changing climate.

##### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC has provided essential technical and financial support to Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society. This collaboration enhances the National Society's capacity to address the climate challenges effectively and implement the strategies outlined in the National Climate Change Policy, ensuring greater impact and sustainability in the initiatives undertaken.



*National Society staff and volunteers being briefed by the IFRC (Photo: Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society)*



## Disasters and crises

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

Although no major disaster occurred during the reporting period, Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society remained proactive by reaching out to communities and strengthening its partnership with public authorities. The National Society worked closely with local authorities to address community needs related to hazards. In May 2024, the National Society distributed food donations to fire victims in Kampung Setia B, aiming to provide comfort and relief. This initiative not only helped the community recover from the disaster but also strengthened the National Society's engagement and trust within the local community.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC offered technical and financial support to the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society, aiding its efforts in strengthening community resilience and responding effectively to local hazards. This support helped enhance the National Society's capacity to continue its vital work and maintain strong relationships with public authorities and local communities.



## Health and wellbeing

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society made significant progress in health services. One of its key achievements was its continued support of the Indonesian Red Cross in managing the second Southeast Asia First Aid Network meeting, scheduled for September 2024. This follows the successful hosting of the first meeting in 2023. The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society also visited the Indonesian Red Cross in June 2024 to discuss the meeting's concept notes and technical implementation.

The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society has also expanded its First Aid Academy by offering a commercial First Aid Programme aimed at private industries, medium and large enterprises, and hospitals. The National Society was recognized by the government for mobilizing trained First Aid personnel to support the National Royal Wedding of Prince Brunei in January 2024. Furthermore, the National Society signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the government to standardize First Aid training in line with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Global Vision 2030, though it has not yet pursued international certification. As part of its commitment to mental health, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society integrated Mental Health and Psychosocial Support into its First Aid curriculum, particularly the Psychosocial First Aid component, to promote well-being and work-life balance. In addition, the National Society has become an active member of the national Multisectoral Taskforce for Health, and its president was appointed Deputy Co-chair in April 2024. The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society is also working on various initiatives, such as integrating Psychological First Aid training into workplaces and developing Disaster Mental Health Management Modules with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defense, and the National Disaster Management Centre. Additionally, the National Society is addressing mental health issues among children and young people by creating specific training modules and syllabi.

On the social service front, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society continued to support marginalized communities through food distribution programs. The National Society also hosted a blood donation drive on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day in May 2024, in collaboration with Jerudong Park Medical Centre and McDonald's, further strengthening its role in promoting health and humanitarian service.

### IFRC Joint Network Support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society throughout these initiatives, ensuring the successful implementation and progress of its health-related objectives. This support played a key role in facilitating the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society's involvement in the Southeast Asia First Aid Network and other health and community-based activities.

# ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



## Strategic and operational coordination

### IFRC Membership coordination

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

The National Society receives bilateral support from the **Indonesian Red Cross, Philippines Red Cross and Singapore Red Cross**.

The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society played a vital role in establishing the Southeast Asia First Aid Network which serves as a platform to strengthen First Aid programmes and foster collaboration among the National Societies in Southeast Asia. Its primary objectives include facilitating peer-to-peer learning and support among National Societies, and fostering the exchange of best practices, experiences and resources. The National Society also participates in Red Cross and Red Crescent network coordination meetings such as the Southeast Asia Red Cross and Red Crescent Leadership meetings and the ASEAN Red Cross Youth Forum.

### Movement coordination

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

**The ICRC** maintains a dialogue with the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society on humanitarian issues, international humanitarian law, and the mandate and role of the ICRC.

IFRC had twice hosted BRC leaders in Jakarta for introductions and information sharing purposes, including joint services through Movement networks and National Society strengthening.

### External coordination

To strengthen its role as an auxiliary to public authorities and expand its influence, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society maintains partnerships with local, national, and international stakeholders. At the local and national levels, the National Society promotes its programs through school visits, collaborations with private companies, health centers, and participation in national events. A key partnership with the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) and other Ministry of Home Affairs departments supports the community first aiders initiative, which equips communities to assist during emergencies. As a member of the national Multisectoral Taskforce for Health – Cross Functional Team (Mental Health), the National Society is committed to delivering four key outputs: collaboration with the Safety Health and Environment National Authority (SHENA) on mandatory Psychological First Aid (PFA) training for corporations, developing Disaster Mental Health Management Modules with relevant government authorities, reporting on the Mental Health Psychosocial Support Programme's progress, and creating a PFA module for children and young people.





## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first six months of the year, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society successfully managed significant shifts in its organizational leadership structure. In January 2024, the National Society elected a new President and appointed a Secretary General for the 2024-2028 period. Following an internal dynamic process, the National Society introduced a new governing board and national council for 2024-2029 in June, after appointing the new Secretary General in May. The leadership changes were formally acknowledged during the 76th anniversary celebration of the National Society on 30 June 2024. At the event, newly appointed members of the governing board received letters of credential from the Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and the Minister of Defense II of Brunei Darussalam.

In the area of youth and volunteer empowerment, the National Society actively recruited new volunteers and conducted dissemination sessions at schools. On 1 May 2024, a special talk session was held at St. George's School in Bandar Seri Begawan. The event was opened by the Secretary General, who introduced the National Society's mission and core values. During the session, students were familiarized with the seven Fundamental Principles of the organization. The students, aged 12 to 17, were encouraged to join the National Society's School Cadet Platoon, where they will be trained in disaster preparedness and first aid simulations. The National Society also engaged in the ASEAN Youth Exchange Programme, involving 100 youths/volunteers from 10 ASEAN countries, hosting 10 participants in Brunei Darussalam for 22 days. The activities included community resilience efforts and the establishment of community rainwater treatment and WASH facilities, with the National Society presenting its report at the program's learning session in January 2024.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society during the reporting period. Through this support, the National Society was able to engage effectively in regional youth programs such as the ASEAN Youth Exchange Programme and enhance its youth and volunteer engagement activities. The IFRC also facilitated collaboration with the National Society's leadership and governance restructuring efforts, ensuring that the National Society's activities remained aligned with global Red Cross and Red Crescent standards.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society has actively engaged with neighboring National Societies, including the Indonesian Red Cross, Singapore Red Cross, and Philippine Red Cross. A significant strategic coordination effort was the development of the Southeast Asia First Aid Network (SEAFAN) in the region. This initiative was marked by the success of the first SEAFAN meeting, hosted by the National Society in 2023. Additionally, the National Society provided technical support to the Indonesian Red Cross in organizing the second SEAFAN meeting scheduled for September 2024.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC played a vital role in supporting the Southeast Asia First Aid Network's (SEAFAN) preparation. IFRC provided technical support through intensive coordination between its health team, the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society, and the Indonesian Red Cross. Furthermore, the IFRC facilitated direct collaboration between the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society and the Indonesian Red Cross during a visit by the National Society to Indonesia in June 2024, ensuring a successful planning process for the upcoming second SEAFAN meeting.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

As the Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society nears the end of its Strategic Plan for 2020-2025, the National Society is planning to develop a new Strategic Plan for the next period. This process is expected to begin in the second half of 2024. The National Society intends to draw insights and learn from the best practices of other National Societies, particularly the Indonesian Red Cross and Timor-Leste Red Cross, which are also developing new strategic plans in 2024.

### IFRC Network joint support

The IFRC supported the Burkinabe Red Cross Society's efforts under accountability and agility by providing both technical and financial support for the development of key tools and policies that help enhance the National Society's accountability. This includes the development of key strategies, human resource tools, monitoring and evaluation support.





## 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.

### DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a light grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods, and may be incomplete. "Not reported" could sometimes mean "not applicable".
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The financial report for the Brunei IFRC network mid-year report is not yet available.
- [IFRC network country plan](#)
- [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](#)
- [IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank](#)

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