



# MEKONG

2024 IFRC Network Mid-Year Report, January – June

25 April 2025

## IN SUPPORT OF THE CAMBODIA, LAOS, THAILAND, AND VIET NAM NATIONAL SOCIETIES



**120**

National Society  
branches



**16,538**

National Society  
local units



**539,115**

National Society  
volunteers



**29,404**

National Society  
staff

## PEOPLE REACHED

Disaster and  
crises



**64,456**

Health and  
wellbeing



**14,770**

Migration and  
displacement



**27,339**

Appeal number

**MAAKH002 | MAALA002**

**MAATH001 | MAAVN002**

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

# CAMBODIA

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 792,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	<div></div> 72,000
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 720,000
		Funding	Not reported

### Cambodian Red Cross Society

#### Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

#### Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	<div></div> 21,000
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services.	<div></div> 2,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services.	<div></div> 2,000
Migration and displacement	National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move.	Yes
	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	<div></div> 2,000

## ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	National Society develops and/or implements a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes
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# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Cambodia has experienced strong economic growth over the past two decades and is on track to achieve higher middle-income status by 2030. However, this growth is overshadowed by significant inequality and the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which hit rural, marginalized populations the hardest. The pandemic severely impacted employment, wages, and non-wage incomes, especially in vulnerable communities. Despite these challenges, Cambodia was still classified as a Least Developed Country by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 2021.

According to the Asian Development Bank, 14.5% of the population faces undernourishment, and child malnutrition remains high. Maternal mortality remains a significant issue, along with high under-5 and neonatal mortality rates. Access to safely managed drinking water services is limited, with a notable disparity between urban and rural areas.

In 2024, during the Cambodian Senate elections, the ruling Cambodian People's Party won 55 of the 58 contested seats, solidifying its political dominance.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

The Cambodian Red Cross Society developed the 'Catalysing Climate Action and Early Warning Early Action for Climate-Related Hazards' project to enhance its capacity for climate action and early response to climate hazards.

### Disasters and crises

The Cambodian Red Cross Society plans to conduct a self-assessment on preparedness for climate hazards and organize a combined training on enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and community early warning systems.

### Health and wellbeing

The Cambodian Red Cross Society continued the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project, conducting pre-departure education, outreach, and home visits to migrant workers, particularly along the Cambodia–Thailand border. The National Society reached over 1,400 community members, provided psychological support, and collaborated with various partners, including local authorities and the International Organization for Migration. It also organized a peer-to-peer exchange with the Lao Red Cross to enhance practices and improve service delivery.

### Migration and displacement

The Cambodian Red Cross Society conducted an assessment on migration and displacement in Cambodia, finalizing the report in June 2024. It also continues implementing the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project, providing community education, outreach, and collaborating with partners to improve services for affected populations.

### Values, power and inclusion

The Cambodian Red Cross Society is finalizing a Capacity Building Fund proposal to implement new protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) safeguarding policies and a youth policy. The fund will support workshops and training to strengthen institutional capacity, promote inclusivity, and integrate safeguarding measures across its programmes.

### Enabling local actors

The Cambodian Red Cross Society attended regional and global meetings to strengthen partnerships and raise its profile. It implemented the ECHO PPP and improved coordination in disaster risk management, epidemic preparedness, and community engagement. In 2024, it submitted its first Certified Declaration of Income and Financial Audited Statements for 2023 in many years.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Cambodian Red Cross Society developed a project proposal titled 'Catalysing Climate Action and Early Warning Early Action for Climate-Related Hazards' (CCA-EWEA). The project aims to strengthen the National Society's capacity to scale up climate action and advance early warning and early action for climate-related hazards.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Cambodian Red Cross Society with technical and financial support for its proposals and projects.



### Disasters and crises

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

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

As part of its 'Catalysing Climate Action and Early Warning Early Action for Climate-Related Hazards' project, the Cambodian Red Cross Society plans to carry out a preparedness for effective response self-assessment with a focus on preparedness for anticipatory action related to climate hazards. The National Society is also planning to carry out a combined enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and Community Early Warning System Training of Trainers workshop.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Cambodian Red Cross Society with technical and financial support for its projects and programmes.



### Health and wellbeing

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Cambodian Red Cross Society continued to implement the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project in Cambodia. The project is being implemented from June 2023 to August 2024.

During the first half of 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society conducted 22 pre-departure education sessions through its branches. Sub-branch staff and volunteers provided information on HIV/AIDS, antiretroviral therapy referral services, drug use, and safe return procedures to migrant workers, including women. These workers were either returning from Thailand or preparing to travel there for work. The National Society delivered these sessions at drop-in centres near the Cambodia–Thailand border in Poipet and at international border checkpoints in Poipet and Prom. These activities were carried out in collaboration with local authorities, border police, the International Organization

for Migration, and staff from drop-in centres under the Ministry of Social Affairs. During the sessions it also distributed informative booklets to migrant workers containing key messages on health, safety, and available services.

The Cambodian Red Cross Society also conducted 48 outreach sessions across 19 target villages in Sangkat, Poipet, and Sala Krao District, reaching 1,422 community members, including 937 women. These sessions strengthened community health education efforts by providing information on HIV/AIDS, drug use, and essential guidance for safe travel abroad.

In addition, branch and sub-branch staff and volunteers from the Cambodian Red Cross Society carried out home visits to families of migrants living with HIV/AIDS. During these visits, the Cambodia Red Cross Society provided psychological support, distributed humanitarian packages and relief kits to families, and shared vital information about HIV/AIDS. These efforts, as part of a broader harm reduction approach, aimed to reduce stigma and discrimination while enhancing access to health services for people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

To promote learning and improve practices, the National Society organized a peer-to-peer exchange with the Lao Red Cross Society. In May 2024, four staff members from the Cambodia Red Cross Society visited the Lao People's Democratic Republic to observe outreach activities conducted by Lao Red Cross Society volunteers in Hatsayfong District, Vientiane Capital, including at the First Lao–Thai Friendship Bridge international checkpoint. The team also visited people living with HIV/AIDS in their homes, met with members of the Lao HIV Network and local authorities, and exchanged feedback with the Lao Red Cross Society.

The Cambodia Red Cross Society held two technical follow-up meetings in Poipet District and Sala Krao District. These meetings served to review project implementation and identify areas for improvement. The National Society conducted focus group meetings with migrants living with HIV/AIDS who are currently receiving antiretroviral treatment. These sessions, attended by 28 participants (9 women), were held in Poipet District and Sala Krao District.

To further improve service delivery, the Cambodian Red Cross Society actively collaborated with a wide range of partners. The National Society worked with the International Organization for Migration to provide joint sessions on HIV/AIDS and migration education in Poipet Municipality, Banteay Meanchey Province. It also partnered with local universities to share information on HIV/AIDS, climate change, nutrition, non-communicable diseases, healthy aging, and behaviour change. Additionally, the National Society staff engaged with Buddhist monks to deliver psychosocial support messages, emphasize the importance of continuing antiretroviral treatment, address health-related concerns, and distribute food to those in need.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society through technical assistance.

The **Italian Red Cross** supported the National Society in effective implementation of its Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project in Cambodia.



## **Migration and displacement**

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

During the reporting period, the National Society conducted an assessment on migration and displacement in Cambodia to gain a better understanding of the migration landscape, the specific needs of migrants and displaced people, and to develop practical recommendations for addressing those needs.

The National Society finalized the assessment report in June 2024 and plans to publish it in the second half of the year.

The Cambodian Red Cross has also been implementing the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project in Cambodia since June 2023. During the first half of 2024, the National Society conducted community education sessions, outreach activities and home visits to deliver essential information. Additionally, the National Society coordinated and collaborated with key in-country partners working on migration issues to improve service delivery and outcomes for affected populations.

## IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in aiding migrants living with HIV/AIDS.



## Values, power and inclusion

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Cambodian Red Cross is currently finalizing a [Capacity Building Fund](#) proposal to support the introduction and implementation of new [protection, gender, and inclusion](#) (PGI) safeguarding policies, as well as a new youth policy. The National Society aims to use this fund to organize workshops and training sessions that will facilitate the dissemination of the new policies, tools and working methodologies. Through these efforts, the Cambodian Red Cross seeks to strengthen institutional capacity, promote inclusive practices and ensure the effective integration of safeguarding measures across its programmes and activities.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in building its PGI institutional capacity and to integrate PGI into its programmes and humanitarian operations.

## 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.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and IFRC, the **Finnish Red Cross** supports the National Society's efforts in disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness, and risk communication and community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)).

The **Italian Red Cross** provides support for the National Society's HIV-AIDS related interventions.

### Movement coordination

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

The **ICRC** has a regional presence in Bangkok and field offices in the north and south of Thailand. It provides its expertise in activities such as detention, restoring family links, helping vulnerable communities, and the promotion of international humanitarian law.

### External coordination

The Cambodian Red Cross Society has been supported to attend regional and global meetings, workshops and trainings or to join relevant working groups to ensure stronger partnerships with sister National Societies, and to raise the National

Society's profile within the Movement. The Cambodian Red Cross implements the ECHO PPP with the support of the Finnish Red Cross and the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation, Bangkok, Thailand. The ECHO PPP has improved coordination between the Movement partners in the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, and [community engagement and accountability](#).



## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Cambodian Red Cross Society worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Cambodian Red Cross Society worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives




During the first half of 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross submitted its Certified Declaration of Income and Financial Audited Statements for the year 2023—marking the first submission of this kind in many years.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance.

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country		Funding Requirement	 1.1M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	 507,000
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
Participating National Societies		Funding	2,000
		Expenditure	2,000
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	 583,000
		Funding	Not reported

### Lao Red Cross

#### Overview






Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

#### Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	 548,000
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported










In addition to: CHF 500,000 DREF Funding

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	Number of National Societies implementing cash voucher assistance programmes.	1
	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	 25,000
	Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers.	82%
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services.	 2,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services.	 2,000
	Number of people trained by National Societies in first aid.	 962
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	 2,000



# IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support					
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Japanese Red Cross Society	2,000						
Swiss Red Cross							
Thai Red Cross Society							

Total Funding Reported **CHF 2,000**

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Laos is highly vulnerable to [climate change](#), facing increased climate-related hazards worsened by poverty, malnutrition, and the high exposure of marginalized communities. Rising extreme heat threatens public health, especially outdoor labourers and urban populations. Without action, the number of people exposed to river flooding is expected to double to over 80,000 by the 2030s, with increased risks from flash floods and landslides. Projected warming of 3.6°C by the 2090s could put further strain on health, livelihoods, and ecosystems.

Despite significant poverty reduction and strong economic growth with an average annual GDP increase of 7.3%, Laos still faces challenges. In 2021, Laos launched a high-speed railway from Vientiane to the Chinese border, positioning itself as a regional hub. However, the country faced macroeconomic instability in 2022, worsened by global food, fuel, and fertilizer price hikes and a sharp depreciation in the national currency, which led to a 39% inflation rate. The new Prime Minister, appointed in 2022, pledged to improve macroeconomic stability, focus on sustainable development, and prioritize poverty reduction and equality.

In 2024, Laos took over the ASEAN Chairmanship from Indonesia, marking a key moment for the country in the regional spotlight. As Chair, Laos focused on regional integration, economic cooperation and sustainable development, while addressing challenges like climate change, economic inequality, and security.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

The Lao Red Cross has developed a project proposal on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and [early warning early action](#). This initiative aims to strengthen the Red Cross's institutional capacity, scale up climate action, and implement early warning systems for climate-related hazards. The project will focus on enhancing preparedness, reducing disaster risks, and building community resilience to extreme weather events, with plans for implementation in late 2024.

### Disasters and crises

The Lao Red Cross completed the Scope of Work for direct cash distributions and prepared documentation to begin procurement, while also drafting a Standard Operating Procedure to standardize cash preparedness. In May 2024, it conducted Emergency Needs Assessment and Planning (ENAP) training for key personnel, enhancing their capacity in needs assessments and response planning. The National Society also developed a project proposal for a Climate Change Adaptation and Early Warning Early Action initiative, aimed at strengthening its institutional capacity, improving community-based early warning systems, and integrating climate resilience into national disaster management frameworks, with plans to implement it later in 2024.

### Health and wellbeing

The Lao Red Cross is implementing Phase II of its First Aid project, enhancing first aid awareness and capacity in schools and communities across Laos. In early 2024, partnership meetings with local stakeholders were held in six provinces, reviewing progress and planning future activities. The project also includes training in [first aid](#) and Psychological First Aid, reaching hundreds of participants in high schools. The Lao Red Cross is also running the 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS' project, providing education, outreach, and psychosocial support to migrant populations. In collaboration with local partners, it has supported HIV/AIDS prevention efforts and conducted home visits for vulnerable individuals. Additionally, the Lao Red Cross continues to improve the national blood transfusion service, focusing on increasing blood collection and processing capacity.

### Migration and displacement

Since June 2023, the Lao Red Cross has implemented the 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS' project. In the first half of 2024, it conducted community education, outreach, and home visits to improve access to HIV/AIDS treatment and psychosocial support. The Lao Red Cross also collaborated with the Cambodian Red Cross

for a peer-to-peer exchange on health challenges, shared best practices, and conducted a comprehensive HIV/AIDS rapid assessment with local partners.

### Values, power and inclusion

The Lao Red Cross will continue developing its protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) policy, conduct PGI training for staff and volunteers, translate PGI IEC materials, and establish a community engagement and accountability feedback mechanism.

### Enabling local actors

In 2024, the Lao Red Cross organized a workshop to develop a draft Standard Operating Procedure for disaster response and a contingency plan. The National Society also held a development workshop to align its strategic plan, identify capacity gaps, and create a National Society Development (NSD) committee. The Lao Red Cross implemented a program to strengthen institutional preparedness across the country and is extending it through 2024, with a focus on community-level activities. The Society also engaged with government representatives to adopt policies and regulations in line with the Red Cross Law.

## IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross has developed a project proposal focused on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and early warning early action which has received funding support from Irish Aid. This project aims to strengthen the institutional capacities of the Lao Red Cross while also improving the enabling environment to scale up climate action and advance the implementation of early warning early action systems for climate-related hazards. Through this initiative, the Lao Red Cross seeks to enhance preparedness, reduce disaster risks, and build community resilience in the face of increasing climate variability and extreme weather events. Once finalized and approved, the Lao Red Cross plans to implement the project between the third and fourth quarters of 2024.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Lao Red Cross with technical and financial support for various climate-related programmes which were part of the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF).

The **Irish Red Cross** provided financial support to the National Society in developing a project proposal on Climate Change Adaptation and early warning early action.



## Disasters and crises

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

In 2024, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was approved for the following emergencies:

<b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>	Flood 2024
<b>MDR-CODE</b>	MDRLA010
<b>DURATION</b>	6 months (25 August 2024 to 28 February 2025)
<b>FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>	CHF 500,000
<b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>	28,694
<b>LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b>	<a href="#">DREF Operation Final Report</a>

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 500,000 in August 2024 supported the Lao Red Cross in assisting 28,694 people affected by floods. Following the initial assessment of affected communities, national intervention teams were deployed to ensure an effective response in communities. The Lao Red Cross provided support to communities affected through assistance with shelter, livelihoods, basic needs, health, [WASH](#), and disaster risk reduction.

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Lao Red Cross completed the Scope of Work for direct cash distributions and prepared the necessary documentation to initiate the procurement process, which is scheduled to continue into the next quarter. In addition, the National Society developed a draft Standard Operating Procedure for implementing direct cash distributions through a Financial Service Provider, helping to standardize and strengthen cash preparedness.

In May 2024, the Lao Red Cross conducted an Emergency Needs Assessment and Planning (ENAP) training for 40 participants from the national headquarters and all 18 provincial branches. This training significantly enhanced the capacity of key personnel from the Lao Red Cross to understand and conduct humanitarian needs assessments. It also equipped participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop ENAP reports and design effective response plans. The training included a practical simulation exercise that fostered hands-on learning and improved participants' ability to systematically identify, analyze and design interventions tailored to the needs of affected populations.

The Lao Red Cross has also developed a project proposal for a Climate Change Adaptation and Early Warning Early Action (CCA-EWEA) initiative. Under this project, the National Society aims to strengthen its institutional capacity by developing a [preparedness for effective response workplan](#), building technical expertise in [enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment](#) and community-based early warning systems and advancing its ongoing branch development efforts. The Lao Red Cross also plans to improve the enabling environment by conducting a gap and opportunity analysis to explore how EWEA can be better integrated into national laws, policies and disaster management frameworks. Once finalized and approved, the Lao Red Cross expects to implement the project during the third and fourth quarters of 2024.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through timely review and processing of the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) requests. It also provided technical support for the CCA-EWEA initiative. The IFRC provided technical support to the National Society through the deployment of a cash delegate who supported on the procurement process for selecting a Financial Service Provider to facilitate direct cash distributions.

The **Irish Red Cross** provided financial support to the National Society in developing a project proposal on Climate Change Adaptation and [early warning early action](#).



### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross continues to implement Phase II of the First Aid project, which runs from September 2022 to August 2025, aims to enhance first aid awareness and capacity in schools and communities across Laos. In January 2024, the Lao Red Cross organized partnership meetings at six provincial branches—Bokeo, Oudomxay, Xiengkhuang, Xaysomboun, Savannakhet and Champassak—with target schools and key local stakeholders. A total of 202 participants, including representatives from the National Society branches, Provincial Health Departments, Education Departments, school directors, teachers, and other relevant stakeholders attended the meetings. These sessions served to review completed activities, plan for the next six months and promote a shared understanding of the Lao Red Cross's role and the importance of first aid services in emergency situations. The meetings also helped strengthen relationships with local authorities and partners for future collaboration.

From February to April 2024, the six target branches conducted two-day first aid training sessions in 24 high schools, reaching 482 participants. With the integration of a Psychological First Aid module into its curriculum—developed through a Training of Trainers workshop in December 2023—the Lao Red Cross trained participants in both physical and psychological emergency response techniques. To reinforce learning and build confidence in applying first aid at home, in schools, and within communities, the Lao Red Cross organized one-day refresher trainings in May and June 2024 for previously trained participants. Additionally, during the first half of 2024, the Lao Red Cross completed monitoring and evaluation of project implementation across all target branches, helping identify progress, successes, and areas for improvement.

The Lao Red Cross also continues to implement the 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS' project, running from June 2023 to August 2024, which focuses on improving awareness and access to HIV-related services for migrant populations. In the first half of 2024, the National Society conducted pre-departure education sessions for migrants in Hadxaifong District, Vientiane Capital. The National Society staff, local government representatives and volunteers provided vital information on HIV/AIDS prevention, safe migration practices and referral services at Lao-Thai border areas. The sessions also included the distribution of the informational leaflet 'How to Stay Safe and Healthy When Going Abroad', reaching a total of 776 individuals. The Lao Red Cross also supported village-based volunteers in conducting 60 outreach activities on HIV/AIDS and migration across five villages, reaching 1,237 people.

The Lao Red Cross in collaboration with the Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (APL+), a local civil society organization, carried out home visits to individuals living with HIV/AIDS, providing psychosocial support and facilitating access to healthcare and antiretroviral medication for people. These home visits were a critical part of ensuring access to care while preserving the dignity of vulnerable groups. The Lao Red Cross HIV/AIDS project team also conducted field monitoring and evaluation to assess the effectiveness of community education in targeted villages. The findings helped the National Society make implementation improvements, including enhancing support to volunteers and building greater trust within communities. In collaboration with national and international partners, the Lao Red Cross also conducted a rapid assessment on HIV/AIDS to gather up-to-date data for developing evidence-based interventions. Key partners included the ARV Centre, Setthathirath Hospital, Centre for HIV/AIDS/STIs (CHAS), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, National Immigration Police, International Labour Organization, World Health Organization, International Organization for Migration, APL+ and other local authorities.

In March 2024, two staff members from the Lao Red Cross and an IFRC health delegate participated in a peer-to-peer exchange visit to the Cambodian Red Cross. The visit included monitoring activities in Banteay Meanchey Province, where Cambodian Red Cross staff shared HIV/AIDS and migration-related information with communities near the Cambodia-Thailand border, including at the Poipet immigration checkpoint and the International Organization for Migration centre that receives migrants returning from Malaysia. The Lao Red Cross and the Cambodian Red Cross shared best practices and perspectives, further strengthening cross-border collaboration and establishing a foundation for future joint efforts.

The National Society implemented the 'Support for development of Lao Red Cross-National Blood Transfusion Service. The project focused on contributing to improvement of the coverage, quality and quantity of blood collected, processed and transfused through the national blood programme in Lao PDR, operated solely by the Lao Red Cross. The project duration ends in December 2024.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the National Society through technical and financial assistance towards effective implementation of Phase II of its First Aid project.

The **Italian Red Cross** extended support to the National Society to support HIV eradication in the country.

The **Japanese Red Cross** supported the National Society in the implementation of its First Aid project. It also collaborated with the Lao Red Cross to monitor the project's implementation, observe training sessions and meet with the ambulance service team in Champassak.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in implementing the 'Support for development of Lao Red Cross-National Blood Transfusion Service.



## Migration and displacement

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### Progress by National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross has been implementing the 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS' project since June 2023. The National Society carried out a series of community education sessions, outreach activities and home visits during the first half of 2024. These activities aimed to provide essential information and improve access to treatment, care and psychosocial support for migrants living with HIV/AIDS (MLWHA).

The Lao Red Cross collaborated closely with the Cambodian Red Cross to organize a peer-to-peer exchange, during which the two National Societies shared experiences, discussed common challenges, identified best practices and explored opportunities for joint learning and collaboration in addressing cross-border health needs. Additionally, the Lao Red Cross worked with key in-country partners involved in migration and public health to conduct a comprehensive HIV/AIDS rapid assessment.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided support to the National Society on issues of migration and displacement.

The **Italian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society in aiding migrants living with HIV/AIDS.



## Values, power and inclusion

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### Progress by National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross plans to continue with the development of its protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) policy, conducting training on PGI in emergency for staff and volunteers and translation PGI's IEC material, as well as the development of community engagement and accountability (CEA) and feedback mechanism.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided support to the National Society in building its PGI institutional capacity, enabling it to develop and draft policies. The IFRC also helped the National Society integrate PGI into its programmes and humanitarian operations.

# 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 **Irish Red Cross** provided financial support to the National Society in developing a project proposal on Climate Change Adaptation and [early warning early action](#).

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the National Society in HIV/AIDS prevention awareness in border areas with high population flows.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society** supported the National Society's first aid project and collaborated with the National Society to monitor the project's implementation, observe training sessions and meet with the ambulance service team in Champassak.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in implementing the Lao Red Cross National Society development in Strengthening Institutional Preparedness. It also supported the National Society in implementing the 'Support for development of Lao Red Cross-National Blood Transfusion Service. Additionally, the Swiss Red Cross supported a project to strengthen the resource mobilization strategies of the Lao Red Cross.

### Movement coordination

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

The **ICRC** has a regional presence in Bangkok and field offices in the north and south of Thailand. It provides its expertise in activities such as detention, restoring family links, helping vulnerable communities, and the promotion of international humanitarian law.

### External coordination

The Lao Red Cross is actively represented at national, provincial, and municipal levels and has been supported to participate in SEA networks for [protection, gender, and inclusion](#). Additionally, it collaborates with other Red Cross and Red Crescent partners in the Asia Pacific region on hygiene promotion during emergencies and participated in the Global Communications Forum. Additionally, the National Society piloted a project to strengthen its resource mobilization strategies. The project has initiated a local consultant agency to conduct a comprehensive assessment of Lao's fundraising landscape, analyse relevant stakeholder insights, map opportunity for resource mobilization and evaluate the National Society's current capacity to engage the local market.

The Lao Red Cross, as the host of the upcoming 4th Lao Red Cross and Thai Red Cross Conference, has been planning the event, which is expected to take place in July 2024 in Vientiane Province, Lao PDR.



## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross organized a workshop in March 2024 to develop a draft Standard Operating Procedure for disaster response and a contingency plan. In April 2024, the Lao Red Cross conducted a National Society development workshop. The workshop engaged the leadership of the Lao Red Cross in in-depth discussions on the National Society development concept, policy, framework and impact. Participants were introduced to the planning process and guided on how to align the Lao Red Cross strategic plan. The workshop also served as a platform to consolidate findings and identify capacity gaps based on previous assessments, including the [Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification](#) and its action plan, the [Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment](#) results, the [Preparedness for Effective Response](#) outcomes, and other related evaluations.

During the workshop, participants developed the Terms of Reference for the NSD committee. The Lao Red Cross is currently in the process of selecting and assigning members to this committee. In addition, the National Society received information on how to access key funding mechanisms such as the [Capacity Building Fund](#) and the Empress Shôken Fund, which will support its institutional development efforts.

The National Society implemented the Lao Red Cross National Society development in Strengthening Institutional Preparedness. This programme focused on its strategies, procedures and financial management systems in the northern, central and southern part of Laos, including Khammuan, Champassak, Luang Prabang provinces and Vientiane Capital. The project is in the process of extension until December 2024, with plans to continue into Phase II focusing on community-level activities.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** and the **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in organizing the workshop to develop a draft Standard Operating Procedure for disaster response and a contingency plan.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in implementing the Lao Red Cross National Society development in Strengthening Institutional Preparedness.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** promoted humanitarian diplomacy by supporting the Lao Red Cross to be better positioned and have a stronger capacity to achieve the goal of protecting the most vulnerable.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lao Red Cross held meetings with government representatives to adopt decrees, policies, and regulations based on the Red Cross Law and other relevant legislation at both headquarters and provincial levels.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the National Society with technical assistance.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 2.3M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	<div></div> 933,000
		Funding	<div></div> Not reported
		Expenditure	<div></div> Not reported
Participating National Societies		Funding	<div></div> 10,000
		Expenditure	<div></div> 10,000
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 1.4M
		Funding	<div></div> Not reported

Thai Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	<div></div> 80,000
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	National Society is supported in developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks.	Yes
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction.	<div></div> 1,000
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services.	32
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	<div></div> 23,000

# IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support					
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Netherlands Red Cross	10,000						

Total Funding Reported CHF 10,000



National Society staff and volunteers distributing medicines and raising hygiene awareness at a temporary shelter, December 2024 (Photo: Thai Red Cross Society)

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Over the last four decades, [Thailand](#) has made remarkable progress in social and economic development, moving from a low-income country to an upper-income country in less than a generation. It has the second largest economy in Southeast Asia propelled mainly by its manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism industries. Although poverty has declined over the last three decades from 65 per cent in 1988 to nearly 10 per cent in 2018, income inequality has increased. Environmental challenges remain prominent, with severe flooding, droughts, and persistent air pollution affecting multiple regions across the country. Other risks that have been identified are mainly related to health issues or crises, which have caused economic loss as well as loss of lives. The major health risks include pandemics, non-communicable diseases, infectious diseases as well as road traffic accidents.

In 2024, Thailand continued to navigate complex socio-political dynamics following the formation of a Pheu Thai-led government under Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin. Additionally, Thailand continues to host a large number of migrants and displaced persons, particularly from neighbouring countries, who are driven to move by limited employment opportunities, conflict, or political instability in their home nations.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society enhanced its disaster risk reduction efforts by integrating climate change considerations into its training and project activities. Through the 'Enhancing DRR Capacity in Thailand' project, supported by USAID, the National Society trained personnel and communities on disaster preparedness, incorporating climate change adaptation into assessments and awareness efforts. Additionally, the National Society developed an early action protocol to address health impacts from heat, humidity, and air pollution, with a focus on strengthening community resilience and mainstreaming air pollution prevention across initiatives.

### Disasters and crises

The Thai Red Cross Society, through the 'Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity in Thailand' project supported by USAID, advanced the PhonPhai platform by integrating aerial image data services. In the first half of 2024, the Society trained staff and authorities in drone technology for improved disaster reporting, while also training local authorities and volunteers to use the PhonPhai platform for incident reporting. Additionally, the Society enhanced disaster risk reduction efforts with the 'Road to Resilience' training, strengthening personnel's capacities. These efforts supported communities by establishing disaster response committees, conducting assessments, and providing training and preparedness plans.

### Health and wellbeing

The Thai Red Cross Society, with support from the Prudence Foundation and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, developed a draft plan to address health impacts from heat, humidity, and air pollution. The Society has integrated this into its national anticipatory action framework and is prioritizing air pollution. It has also partnered with the USAID Regional Development Mission to enhance community-level epidemic preparedness, focusing on migrant and displaced populations along the Thai-Myanmar border. This initiative aims to strengthen outbreak response and community resilience.

### Migration and displacement

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society advanced epidemic preparedness for migrant and displaced communities along the Thai-Myanmar border and supported cross-border humanitarian efforts. It delivered relief kits to the Myanmar Red Cross Society for internally displaced people and provided essential aid to conflict-affected individuals in temporary shelters in Mae Sot District.

## Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society strengthened youth engagement by hosting international workshops to build mentorship and project management skills, including the SEAYN-led forum and the RCYN Hack Lab. It supported regional collaboration, facilitated strategic revisions, and promoted innovation in youth-led initiatives. The National Society is finalizing a new youth policy and development plan, while also redesigning training materials based on a national volunteer needs analysis.

## Enabling local actors

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society advanced its auxiliary role and mandate by co-hosting the 'Connect 2024' tech conference to promote digital innovation in humanitarian action. It also submitted financial audits through 2022 and continued annual audits.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society strengthened its disaster risk reduction efforts in February 2024 through the 'Enhancing DRR Capacity in Thailand project, supported by USAID. During the Road to Resilience (R2R) training using the enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment approach, the Thai Red Cross Society trained its personnel to apply a climate change lens when conducting assessments and raising awareness on climate change adaptation. The training emphasized the integration of climate considerations throughout all project activities.

Additionally, during community-level trainings on disaster preparedness and response, the Thai Red Cross Society incorporated climate change content into the training curriculum to enhance community awareness and increase the capacity of local committees to address the growing risks and impacts of climate-related hazards.

Under the 'Heat, Humidity, and Air Pollution Early Action Protocol in Thailand project—supported by the Prudence Foundation and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre—the Thai Red Cross Society developed a draft early action protocol plan of action to address the health-related impacts of extreme heat, high humidity and air pollution.

Following the finalization of the Early Action Protocol, which the Thai Red Cross Society has now integrated into its anticipatory action framework, the National Society identified air pollution as a key priority. The Thai Red Cross Society has taken ownership to further develop a dedicated air pollution plan of action, which will include preparedness, anticipatory actions, and measures to strengthen community resilience. The Thai Red Cross Society also aims to mainstream air pollution prevention and preparedness into all relevant initiatives and programmes.

#### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** supported the Thai Red Cross Society with technical and financial support for various climate-related programmes. It also supported the National Society in conducting workshops and the further development of the comprehensive air pollution plan of action.



## Disasters and crises

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

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Thai Red Cross Society, through the 'Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity in Thailand' project supported by the USAID, has advanced the development and application of the PhonPhai platform, now enhanced with aerial image data services. In the first half of 2024, the National Society organized four unmanned aerial vehicle training sessions across various provinces, equipping 123 staff members and relevant authorities with the technical skills to use drone technology for improving disaster reporting through air image data.

The Thai Red Cross Society also conducted three additional training sessions in two provinces, where 276 local authorities and volunteers were trained to use the PhonPhai application for incident reporting and requesting assistance. These efforts contributed to expanding the use of the PhonPhai platform, thereby strengthening its capacity to connect with affected populations and improving access to timely and effective humanitarian support.

The Thai Red Cross Society further enhanced its disaster risk reduction capabilities through the 'Road to Resilience (R2R) via Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment' training conducted in February 2024. This training strengthened the capacity of 32 Thai Red Cross Society personnel to apply newly developed community-based disaster risk reduction tools, knowledge and techniques in their work to build community resilience.

The Thai Red Cross Society applied these strengthened capacities to support 13 target communities. Between January and June 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society facilitated the formation of Community Disaster Preparedness and Response Committees, conducted baseline assessments, provided disaster preparedness and response training to local authorities and community members, and supported the development of community disaster preparedness and response plans.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the National Society in the effective implementation of its programmes and initiatives.



## Health and wellbeing

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Thai Red Cross Society, under the 'Heat, Humidity, and Air Pollution Early Action Protocol in Thailand' project supported by the Prudence Foundation and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, has developed a draft plan of action to address the health impacts associated with heat, humidity and air pollution. After finalizing the Early Action Protocol and integrating it into its national anticipatory action framework, the Thai Red Cross Society has prioritized air pollution as a critical focus area and has taken full ownership of developing a dedicated plan of action. This plan will include preparedness strategies, anticipatory measures, and efforts to strengthen community resilience.

The National Society is actively working to mainstream air pollution prevention and preparedness across all relevant initiatives. The Thai Red Cross Society has established a strategic partnership with the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia, particularly through its Office of Public Health and Global Health Security team. The Thai Red Cross Society has developed a proposal to enhance community-level epidemic preparedness in Thailand, focusing on the Thai-Myanmar border. Through this initiative, the National Society aims to strengthen outbreak prevention, detection and response capabilities, build institutional capacity to manage epidemic and pandemic threats and promote inclusive engagement with key health security stakeholders in vulnerable communities, especially in areas where migrants and displaced populations from Myanmar reside.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through technical and financial assistance towards effective implementation of its various projects and programmes. It also provided support to the National Society in developing a draft action



plan for its 'Heat, Humidity, and Air Pollution Early Action Protocol in Thailand' project. The IFRC supported the Thai Red Cross Society in establishing a strategic partnership with the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia to develop a proposal on community-level epidemic preparedness in Thailand.



## Migration and displacement

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Thai Red Cross Society developed a proposal to strengthen community-level epidemic preparedness in Thailand, with a specific focus on migrants and displaced populations from Myanmar residing along the Thai-Myanmar border.

The National Society, as part of its cross-border humanitarian efforts, delivered 4,000 relief kits to the Myanmar Red Cross Society in March 2024. The handover took place at the 2nd Thai-Myanmar Friendship Bridge in Mae Sot District and was intended to support the distribution of essential aid to internally displaced people in Myanmar. This initiative formed part of a broader cross-border humanitarian assistance effort proposed by the Myanmar Red Cross Society, in line with the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Thai Red Cross Society further extended its support in April 2024 by assisting 3,000 displaced individuals affected by the ongoing conflict in Myanmar who were residing in temporary shelters in Mae Sot District, Tak Province. The National Society provided these vulnerable populations with critical in-kind assistance, including food, mosquito nets, medical supplies and other essential relief items.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Thai Red Cross Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities.



## Values, power and inclusion

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Thai Red Cross Society hosted an international workshop, organized by the Southeast Asian Youth Network (SEAYN), to strengthen the mentorship capacities of regional youth leaders and staff. The National Society provided a platform for collaboration and strategic dialogue, during which SEAYN agreed to revise its Terms of Reference to enhance coordination, improve project delivery and align its mission with the findings of a regional needs analysis led by volunteers. The Cambodian Red Cross Society and Lao Red Cross also participated in the event, further enriching the exchange of knowledge and best practices.

The Youth Bureau of the Thai Red Cross Society organized another international workshop titled the 'Red Cross Youth Network (RCYN) Hack Lab', which focused on developing youth volunteer project management and soft skills. The Thai Red Cross Society designed the RCYN Hack Lab in the style of a hackathon, incorporating structured training modules to support effective project design and innovation in youth-led initiatives.

The Thai Red Cross Society is currently in the final stages of developing a new youth policy that recognizes and prioritizes youth voices as vital agents of change and development. Alongside this, the Thai Red Cross Society is creating a comprehensive youth development plan to guide strategic direction and decision-making in youth engagement, leadership, and capacity-building initiatives.

The Youth Bureau of the Thai Red Cross Society has also begun redesigning its youth and volunteering training manual and related materials. The National Society is conducting an in-depth needs analysis of volunteers across Thailand, as of the end of the second quarter of 2024, to ensure that its training programmes respond to evolving community needs and continue to empower young people effectively.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Thai Red Cross Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities. It supported the National Society in organizing workshops on development of youth volunteer project management. The IFRC is also extending support to the National Society in redesigning its youth and volunteering training manual.

The Italian Red Cross provided technical support to the National Society in conducting workshops.

## 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.

#### Movement coordination

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

The ICRC has a regional presence in Bangkok and field offices in the north and south of Thailand. It provides its expertise in activities such as detention, restoring family links, helping vulnerable communities, and the promotion of international humanitarian law.

#### External coordination

The Thai Red Cross Society is actively represented in numerous meetings, workshops, and training sessions to enhance their expertise and improve coordination with other National Societies. The National Society has also provided substantial support to sister National Societies, such as through peer-to-peer collaboration with the Lao Red Cross and contributions to emergency appeals. Additionally, the Thai Red Cross Society has fostered strong partnerships with government bodies at all levels, supporting a wide range of humanitarian initiatives.



### National Society development

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Thai Red Cross Society worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society advanced efforts to strengthen its auxiliary role and humanitarian mandate. It co-hosted the 'Connect 2024' technology conference in June 2024. The conference aimed to build a global technology community to enhance the use of digital solutions across all National Societies, accelerating humanitarian impact through innovation and collaboration.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC promoted humanitarian diplomacy by supporting the National Society to be better positioned and have a stronger capacity to achieve the goal of protecting the most vulnerable. It also provided support to the National Society in hosting the Connect 2024 technology conference.

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The ICRC supported the National Society in strengthening use of technology for all National Societies and to accelerate humanitarian impact through innovation.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Thai Red Cross Society submitted its financial audit statements until 2022. The National Society also conducted regular yearly audits.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the National Society.



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 490,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	<div></div> 122,000
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	<div></div> 368,000
		Funding	Not reported

### Vietnam Red Cross Society

#### Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

#### Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	<div></div> 172,000
Participating National Societies	<div></div> 524,000
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

In addition to: CHF 400,000 DREF Funding

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	<div></div> 38,000
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	<div></div> 2,000
	Number of people reached with shelter support.	<div></div> 625
	Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers.	64%
Health and wellbeing	Number of communities / sites reached by RCRC with WASH actions in emergency response.	4
	Number of people covered with hygiene promotion activities.	<div></div> 5,000
	Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services.	<div></div> 10,000
	Number of people who have been provided with an improved protected source of drinking water by RCRC.	<div></div> 1,000

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Bilateral Support						
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Korean Red Cross			<div></div>			<div></div>	<div></div>
Swiss Red Cross							<div></div>



Vietnam Red Cross Society marked World First Aid Day with a First Aid Skills Contest at its 6th National Youth and Volunteer Camp in Nha Trang, August 2024 (Photo: Vietnam Red Cross Society)

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Viet Nam is counted as one of the fastest growing economies of the 21st century and its economic and political reforms, launched in 1986, have spurred rapid economic growth and development, and transformed Viet Nam from one of the world's poorest nations to a lower middle-income country. Viet Nam has made significant progress on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a reduction in poverty rates and a primary education net enrolment rate of 99 per cent. Viet Nam is also one of the countries most affected by climate change. It is at continuous risk of natural disasters, including floods, tropical cyclones, landslides, droughts and heatwaves.

In recent years, several policy shifts by the Government of Viet Nam regarding international aid and external funding have significantly affected the approval and implementation processes of donor-funded projects. The Government's intensified anti-corruption campaign has further slowed bureaucratic processes. Over the past three years, the campaign has led to the resignations of two State Presidents and the Chairman of the National Assembly as well as the arrest of hundreds of government officials. This heightened scrutiny has resulted in greater caution within the administrative system, leading to additional delays in project approvals and reimbursement of state funding.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

The Vietnam Red Cross Society is awaiting approval to extend its USAID-funded Greening Disaster Risk Reduction project through 2025. In its second phase, the project will strengthen policies, capacities, and advocacy on Nature-Based Solutions, building on achievements from the first phase.

### Disasters and crises

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society completed a DREF operation, providing relief to people affected by flash floods in Vietnam.

### Health and wellbeing

In early 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society prepared to expand its first aid programme by introducing commercial first aid and mental health support, alongside existing services. Aimed at boosting sustainability and financial self-reliance, this expansion included restructuring its humanitarian centre and appointing a new director to lead implementation.

### Migration and displacement

The Vietnam Red Cross Society plans to assess humanitarian needs of migrants and displaced people, hold a strategic workshop, and train staff on accountability in aid delivery.

### Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society conducted a modified YABC Training of Trainers in Thai Nguyen, emphasizing youth agency through adaptive methods. It also plans to hold a National Youth Camp and Peer Educator training later in the year.

### Enabling local Actors

The Vietnam Red Cross Society enhanced its youth and volunteer programming by updating volunteer regulations, developing a new manual, and delivering key trainings in PMER, volunteer management tools and youth engagement. It also launched media and digital communication training for chapter leaders, with a follow-up planned for July 2024.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Greening Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative – Greening Red Cross and Red Crescent Disaster Risk Reduction: Saving Lives through Working with Nature project, funded by USAID’s BHA, has been successfully implemented by the Vietnam Red Cross Society. Considering the project’s relevance and achievements, the BHA granted a cost extension until 2025. The National Society is currently awaiting approval from the relevant ministries in Viet Nam for the extension of the.

In its second phase, the project aims to strengthen the Vietnam Red Cross Society’s policies, frameworks, institutional capacities, and advocacy efforts related to Nature-Based Solution (NbS). This phase will also focus on consolidating knowledge, best practices, and accomplishments from the initial phase of the project to enhance the integration of NbS into disaster risk reduction strategies.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Vietnam Red Cross with technical support in implementing its project and programmes, including the Greening DRR project.



### Disasters and crises

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

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

#### Viet Nam Flash Floods 2023

NAME OF OPERATION	<a href="#">Viet Nam Flash Floods 2023</a>
MDR-CODE	MDRVN023
DURATION	7 months (17 August 2023 to 31 March 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 400,344
PEOPLE TARGETED	214,527 people
LATEST OPERATION UPDATE	<a href="#">DREF Operations update</a>

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 400,344 in August 2023 supported the Vietnam Red Cross Society in assisting approximately 214,527 people affected by the persistent rainfall in the affected regions leading to flash and landslides. The National Society supported the targeted people over a seven-month period with assistance including essential household items, multipurpose cash grants, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene services.

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the National Society interventions were carried out as part of different response mechanisms such as the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)). The Vietnam Red Cross Society

implemented a DREF operation from August 2023 to March 2024. Under this DREF operation, the Vietnam Red Cross Society provided relief assistance to more than 214,000 most vulnerable people affected by the flash floods in Vietnam.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society through timely review and processing of the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) requests.



## **Health and wellbeing**

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

The Vietnam Red Cross Society has been preparing to expand its first aid programme during the first half of 2024. The National Society plans to maintain its existing first aid training services for staff and volunteers, as well as continue providing humanitarian first aid to communities. At the same time, it is introducing new components, including commercial first aid services and mental health and psychosocial support, to enhance the scope and sustainability of its programming.

The Vietnam Red Cross Society aims to use the commercial first aid component as a means to generate income and promote financial self-reliance. This initiative aligns with the National Society's strategic goal to strengthen and sustain the delivery of its comprehensive first aid programme over the long term.

Since April 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society has undertaken an organizational restructuring at its humanitarian centre to support the rollout of its commercial first aid programme. This includes the appointment of a new director to oversee implementation and operations.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society in coordinating with key partners and providing technical assistance throughout the development of the commercial first aid programme, including in analysis and planning processes.



## **Migration and displacement**

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

The Vietnam Red Cross Society plans to conduct a national-level needs assessment to identify the humanitarian needs of migrants and displaced people. It also aims to organize a national strategic workshop to address these needs and evaluate the current status of humanitarian aid implementation. Additionally, the National Society will provide training for its staff on upholding accountability principles in the delivery of humanitarian aid.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provided the Vietnam Red Cross Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities.



## **Values, power and inclusion**

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

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross designed and facilitated a modified Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC) Training of Trainers. This training, conducted for youth and volunteers in Thai Nguyen, focused on strengthening youth agency and utilized a more adaptive and responsive facilitation methodology.

The Vietnam Red Cross Society has planned upcoming initiatives, including the Vietnam National Youth Camp and the YABC Training of Peer Educators, both scheduled for the third and fourth quarters of 2024.

## IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Vietnam Red Cross Society in facilitating a modified YABC Training of Trainers and for its other upcoming initiatives.

# 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 **Republic of Korea National Red Cross** remains the only National Society with an active representative office in the country.

### Movement coordination

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

The **ICRC** has a regional presence in Bangkok and field offices in the north and south of Thailand. It provides its expertise in activities such as detention, [restoring family links](#), helping vulnerable communities, and the promotion of international humanitarian law. The ICRC phased out its in-country presence in March 2024 and will continue its cooperation with the Viet Nam Red Cross Society through the Bangkok regional delegation.

### External coordination

The Vietnam Red Cross Society is actively represented at South East Asia Networks for PGI, Corporate Social Responsibility and Youth, as well as to participate in sub-regional, regional, and global meetings to showcase the National Societies practices in prevention activities across various sectors.



## National Society development

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Vietnam Red Cross Society amended and supplemented its regulations on the organization and operation of Red Cross volunteer activities, which were officially adopted and issued in January 2024. It also developed a youth and volunteer manual to guide its programming. In May 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society conducted a training workshop on Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) in Bac Ninh province for 21 participants, including Project Management Unit members from three chapters and focal point teachers from 18 targeted schools.

Between May and June 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society organized three training sessions in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, and Bac Ninh to train 90 staff from 63 Red Cross chapters on using Red Cross volunteer software, database systems, and manuals. In June 2024, the National Society conducted a [Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change](#) training for peer educators in Thai Nguyen province. The training engaged 26 students, teachers, and staff from Bac Ninh and Thai Nguyen. During the same month, the Vietnam Red Cross Society conducted its first training on



media management and digital communication for communications leaders from 32 Red Cross chapters. This training included an introduction to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the use of emblems, along with practical skills for managing communication and social media in the context of digital transformation. A second training for the remaining chapters is scheduled for early July 2024.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance in revising its regulations and guidelines.

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The ICRC provided support to the National Society in conducting the media management and digital communication training.



## **Humanitarian diplomacy**

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

The Vietnam Red Cross Society worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC promoted humanitarian diplomacy by supporting the Vietnam Red Cross Society to be better positioned and have a stronger capacity to achieve the goal of protecting the most vulnerable.



## **Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)**

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

During the reporting period, the Vietnam Red Cross Society submitted its financial audit statements until 2022. The National Society also conducted regular yearly audits.

#### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC supported the National Society in applying for various funding.

## 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

- [IFRC Cambodia 2024 mid-year financial report](#)
- [IFRC Lao 2024 mid-year financial report](#)
- [IFRC Thailand 2024 mid-year financial report](#)
- [IFRC Viet Nam 2024 mid-year financial report](#)
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- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
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**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.

## Contact information

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<b>Cambodian Red Cross Society</b> <a href="https://redcross.org.kh">redcross.org.kh</a>	<b>Lao Red Cross</b> <a href="#">Lao Red Cross   Facebook</a>	<b>Thai Red Cross Society</b> <a href="https://redcross.or.th">redcross.or.th</a>	<b>Vietnam Red Cross Society</b> <a href="https://redcross.org.vn">redcross.org.vn</a>
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