

## **MEKONG**

2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

2 September 2025

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











National Society branches



16,538
National Society local units



539,115
National Society volunteers



National Society staff

#### PEOPLE REACHED

**Emergency** operations



7,800

Climate and environment



289

Disaster and crises



70,356

Health and wellbeing



109,648

Migration and displacement



31,770

Values, power and inclusion



41,432

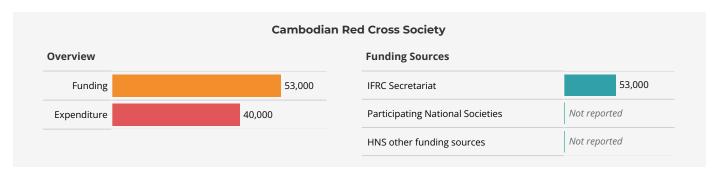
Appeal number

MAAKH002 | MAALA002 MAATH001 | MAAVN002

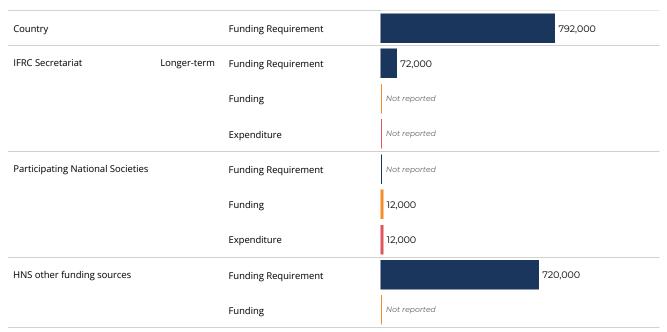


#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

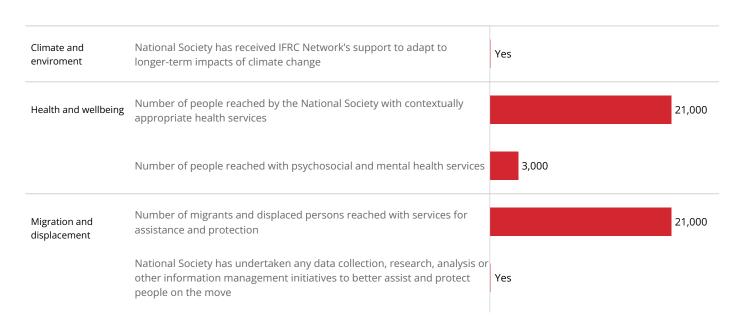
in Swiss francs (CHF)



#### **IFRC** network



#### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



|                             | National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move | Yes |
|-----------------------------|---|-----|
| Values, power and inclusion | Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes   | 500 |

## **ENABLING FUNCTIONS**

| National Society<br>development | National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies   | Yes |
|---------------------------------|--|-----|
|                                 | National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role                          | Yes |
| Humanitarian<br>diplomacy       | National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns  | Yes |
| Accountability and agility      | National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors | Yes |

## **IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES**

|                  | Bilateral Support   |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| National Society | Funding<br>Reported | Climate and enviroment | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing | Migration and displacement | Values, power<br>and inclusion | Enabling<br>Functions |
| Korean Red Cross | 12,000              |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |

Total Funding Reported **CHF 12,000** 

## Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

#### 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 per cent 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, Cambodia's economy began to recover, driven by a rebound in tourism, services, and goods exports. International tourist arrivals reached 84 per cent of pre-pandemic levels. Health outcomes have improved, with underfive mortality at 23.7 per 1,000 live births, neonatal mortality at 12, and maternal mortality at 214.2 per 100,000. In 2022, 22 per cent of children under five were affected by stunting. As of 2023, only 29 per cent of the population had access to safely managed drinking water—just 20 per cent in 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

During the reporting period, the Cambodian Red Cross Society developed the 'Catalysing Climate Action and Early Warning Early Action for Climate-Related Hazards' project to enhance its capacity in climate action and anticipatory response. In December 2024, it held a five-day preparedness for effective response workshop with support from the Hong Kong Red Cross and IFRC Bangkok, assessing its disaster response capacities and identifying key improvements. A community early warning systems training is planned for early 2025 to further strengthen staff capacity and local preparedness.

#### Disasters and crises

As part of its 'Catalysing Climate Action and Early Warning Early Action for Climate-Related Hazards' project, the Cambodian Red Cross Society plans to conduct a preparedness for effective response self-assessment and a combined enhanced <u>Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment</u> and community <u>early warning systems</u> Training of Trainers workshop. It is also contributing to the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, now moving into implementation with Green Climate Fund support, ensuring integration of its activities into national early warning systems. A strong disaster law component is included, with legal mapping, consultations, and technical support planned to guide effective implementation.

#### Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society implemented the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/ AIDS project, training staff and volunteers in HIV/AIDS awareness and reaching migrant workers and community members through outreach and education sessions in target provinces. Activities included psychosocial support, antiretroviral treatment referrals, and humanitarian aid, with a focus on harm reduction and stigma reduction. The National Society conducted pre-departure education sessions and community outreach sessions, collaborated with partners such as IOM and local authorities, and carried out home visits to families of migrants living with HIV. A peer exchange with the Lao Red Cross in May 2024 and technical review meetings helped strengthen practices, while partnerships with universities and religious leaders expanded the reach of health messages and support services.

#### Migration and displacement

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society completed an assessment on migration and displacement to better understand the needs of migrants and displaced people. The National Society also continued its cross-border cooperation on migrants living with HIV/AIDS project, conducting community education, outreach, and home visits. It collaborated with key local partners to enhance service delivery and improve outcomes for affected populations.

#### Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society strengthened its safeguarding and accountability framework by revising key policies, including those on protection, gender, and inclusion, and youth. These updates aim to reinforce protection mechanisms and uphold the rights of vulnerable groups. The National Society has also applied for the IFRC's Capacity Building Fund to support workshops and training sessions for policy dissemination, integrating community engagement and accountability principles to foster a culture of responsiveness and ethical conduct.

#### **Enabling local actors**

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society strengthened its partnerships with sister National Societies by participating in regional and global meetings, workshops, and working groups, enhancing its profile within the Movement. The National Society improved coordination in disaster risk management, epidemic preparedness, and community engagement. Additionally, the Cambodian Red Cross Society submitted its Certified Declaration of Income and Financial Audited Statements for 2023, marking its first submission in several years.

## Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In this reporting period, no changes or amendments were made to the report

## Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC **NETWORK ACTION**

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



#### **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 climaterelated hazards.

In December 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society held a five-day preparedness for effective response (PER) workshop focused on early warning and early action. Participants from the Cambodian Red Cross Society, along with facilitators from the Hong Kong Red Cross and IFRC Bangkok, explored the PER framework and assessed the National Society's disaster response capacities, especially in the context of climate change and anticipatory action. The workshop resulted in key recommendations to strengthen the National Society's preparedness and response.

A training on community early warning systems is planned for early 2025 to build the Cambodian Red Cross Society staff capacity and improve early warning systems across communities in Cambodia.

#### IFRC network joint support

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



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 <u>preparedness for effective response</u> 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 systems Training of Trainers workshop.

The Cambodian Red Cross Society is contributing to the implementation of the Early Warnings for All (<u>EW4All</u>) initiative, following the finalization of Cambodia's national roadmap in mid-2024. The initiative is now entering the implementation phase with funding from the Green Climate Fund. The proposal aims to strengthen all key areas, particularly ensuring the integration of Cambodian Red Cross Society activities into early warning systems. Disaster law is a key part of the National Society's work. A significant disaster law component has been integrated into this proposal, including consultancy, legal mapping, stakeholder consultations, and recommendations, highlighting the need for ongoing technical support from the Asia-Pacific Disaster Law team and a consultant to ensure effective implementation.

#### 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. The project trained National Society staff and volunteers in Paillin and Banteay Meanchey provinces on HIV/ AIDS awareness, leading to various outreach activities that reached migrant workers and community members. The Cambodian Red Cross Society provided psychosocial support, humanitarian packages to migrants living with HIV and referral for antiretroviral treatment. Additionally, the National Society conducted assessments, exchange visits, workshops and field monitoring to strengthen stakeholder cooperation and capacity.

In 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 (IOM), 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 community members, including 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 Cambodian 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. In May 2024, four staff members from the Cambodian Red Cross Society visited the Lao People's Democratic Republic to observe outreach activities conducted by Lao Red Cross 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.

The Cambodian 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 IFRC hosted a Health and Care Coordination and Strategic Planning Workshop in Malaysia with 49 participants from Asia Pacific National Societies, including the Cambodian Red Cross Society. It facilitated the exchange of insights on programme achievements, challenges and innovations in health and WASH services.

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

#### **Progress by 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 Cambodian Red Cross Society has also been implementing the Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS project in Cambodia since June 2023. In 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.



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

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society strengthened its safeguarding and accountability framework by revising key policies, including protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) safeguarding policies, as well as a new youth policy. This ongoing initiative helps to reinforce protection mechanisms and upholds the rights and dignity of all individuals, particularly vulnerable groups. To further this commitment, the Cambodian Red Cross Society has applied for IFRC Capacity Building Fund proposal. 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.

Additionally, the Cambodian Red Cross Society has integrated community engagement and accountability principles into these policy revisions to foster a culture of accountability and responsiveness to the needs of target populations. The revised policies establish a framework for ethical conduct, prevention, and response to exploitation and abuse.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in building its protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) institutional capacity and to integrate PGI into its programmes and humanitarian operations. It also provided technical guidance and capacity-building support for the National society's policy revisions.

## **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.

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 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**

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

In 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society strengthened its protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and child safeguarding policies. This initiative focused on organising workshops and meetings to facilitate discussions and revise the National Society's protection, gender, and inclusion and child safeguarding policy. It also applied for the IFRC Capacity Building Fund.

On youth engagement, the Cambodian Red Cross society organised a National Youth Camp, which brought together over 500 participants. It also conducted workshops on solution ideation and AI, equipping young participants with innovative problem-solving skills and tools to drive changes within their communities.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance for its initiatives on developing policies, capacitybuilding programmes and youth engagement activities.



#### **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. The IFRC helped enhanced regional humanitarian diplomacy by boosting the visibility, policy influence, and cooperation of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Through targeted advocacy, strategic partnerships, and participation in regional policy discussions, including high-level engagement at UNESCAP, the IFRC supported the National Society strengthening its contributions to disaster response, anticipatory action, and community resilience.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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

During the first half of 2024, the Cambodian Red Cross Society 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.

## **Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)**

See cover pages

## **Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR** AFFECTED PEOPLE - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND **ACCOUNTABILITY**

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

This information is not available in Annual Reports

## **Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q8. LESSONS LEARNED**

Nothing to report

#### SUCCESS STORIES



#### **Breaking Barriers: Empowering Migrants Living** with HIV/AIDS

In a significant step toward reducing HIV infections and improving healthcare access, the Cambodian Red Cross Society and the Lao Red Cross implemented a transformative project to support migrants living with HIV/AIDS across key border areas in the Mekong sub-region. This initiative provided essential education, treatment and psychosocial support to vulnerable communities, improving both health outcomes and social inclusion.

Through widespread outreach, thousands of individuals in Cambodia and Lao PDR received vital information on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and mental health. Volunteers led pre-departure sessions at border checkpoints, organized awareness campaigns in high-risk communities, and held World AIDS Day events to engage students, workers, and the public—promoting understanding and reducing stigma.

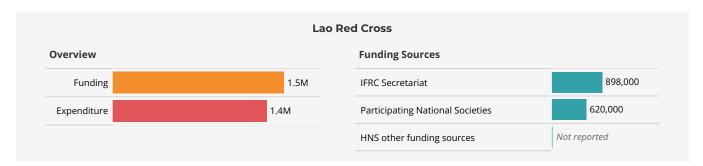
Direct support was provided to MLHIV families through home visits, psychosocial care and quarterly meetings in Cambodia. In Laos, referrals connected individuals with necessary healthcare services, enabling sustained access to treatment and improving quality of life. Crossborder collaboration between the two National Societies improved peer learning and knowledge exchange. The project also engaged national authorities, NGOs and local communities to strengthen coordination, promote gender inclusion, and address discrimination against those affected by HIV/AIDS.

By training volunteers, building strategic partnerships and involving communities, the project established a strong foundation for continued impact. Overcoming early challenges, it demonstrated that inclusive, well-supported initiatives can bring lifesaving care to those who need it most - offering a model for future HIV/AIDS response efforts in the region.

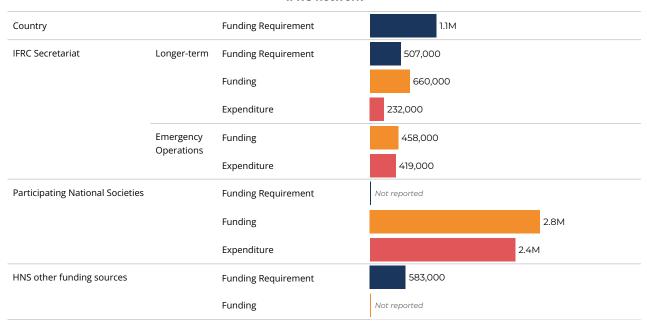


### **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

in Swiss francs (CHF)



#### IFRC network



## **ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS**

| 0                            | Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of   | 1   |
|------------------------------|---|-----|
| EF2 -<br>National<br>Society | National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role | Yes |
| development                  | National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers           | Yes |

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

| Climate and enviroment     | National Society has received IFRC Network's support to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change  | Yes    |
|----------------------------|---|--------|
| Disasters and crises       | Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery                                   | 49,000 |
|                            | Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction   | 40     |
|                            | Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers  | 100%   |
| Health and wellbeing       | Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services  | 77,000 |
|                            | Number of people donating blood   | 71,000 |
|                            | Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services   | 2,000  |
|                            | Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid   | 1,000  |
| Migration and displacement | Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection  | 4,000  |
|                            | National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move | Yes    |

|                             | National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move | Yes    |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|
| Values, power and inclusion | Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming  | 29,000 |
|                             | Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes   | 771    |

## **ENABLING FUNCTIONS**

| Humanitarian<br>diplomacy  | National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns  | Yes |
|----------------------------|--|-----|
| Accountability and agility | National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors | Yes |

## **IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES**

|                            | Bilateral Support   |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| National Society           | Funding<br>Reported | Climate and enviroment | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing | Migration and displacement | Values, power<br>and inclusion | Enabling<br>Functions |
| Japanese Red Cross Society | 54,000              |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |
| Swiss Red Cross            | 2.7M                | •                      | •                    |                      |                            |                                | •                     |
| Thai Red Cross Society     |                     |                        | •                    |                      |                            | •                              | •                     |

Total Funding Reported **CHF 2.7M** 

## Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

#### Context

Laos is highly vulnerable to <u>climate change</u>, 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 per cent, 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 per cent inflation rate. Laos operates as a one-party parliamentary socialist republic, with the Lao People's Revolutionary Party as the sole legal political party. President Thongloun Sisoulith serves as both head of state and LPRP general secretary, while Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone leads the government.

In 2024, tourism, transport, logistics, and energy investments showed signs of recovery, but economic growth remained below pre-pandemic levels due to persistent high inflation, currency depreciation, and slow growth.

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. It also focused on digital transformation under the theme 'ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience'. The chairmanship concluded on 31 December 2024, with Malaysia assuming the role in 2025.

## **Key achievements**

#### Climate and environment

In 2024, the Lao Red Cross developed a project proposal on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and early warning early action (EWEA) to strengthen its capacities and enhance climate resilience. The project aims to improve preparedness, reduce disaster risks, and implement early warning systems for climate-related hazards. In October 2024, a preparedness for effective response (PER) assessment review workshop was held to evaluate recent flood responses, incorporating climate change and anticipatory action into the PER framework. Improvement areas were identified, with a CEWS training planned for early 2025 to enhance early warning systems within the National Society.

#### Disasters and crises

By early 2024, the Lao Red Cross completed its DREF Flood 2023 operation, assisting families with cash aid, hygiene promotion and volunteer training, while integrating community engagement and accountability measures and child safeguarding. In May 2024, staff members were trained on emergency need assessments and response planning. Progress was made on the emergency response SOP, with a final draft to be adopted in 2025. The Irish Aid-funded CCA-EWEA project, running until March 2025, aims to strengthen disaster preparedness and early warning systems. The EW4ALL initiative advanced disaster law implementation, though fundraising remains a challenge. In response to Tropical Cyclone Prapiroon, the National Society distributed relief and secured DREF funding for flood-affected communities. By December 2024, multi-purpose cash assistance was provided to families with a focus on protection, gender, and inclusion principles and community engagement.

#### Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Lao Red Cross advanced initiatives in HIV/AIDS support, first aid, and blood donation. Through its crossborder HIV/AIDS project, it provided education, outreach, mental health support, and antiretroviral therapy, while also partnering with local and international stakeholders to improve care and reduce stigma. In first aid, the National Society conducted staff and school trainings, launched awareness activities, and began developing national guidelines.

Its blood programme strengthened services through infrastructure upgrades, voluntary donation campaigns, and quality improvements, enhancing care and expanding access nationwide.

#### Migration and displacement

Since June 2023, the Lao Red Cross has been implementing the 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/ AIDS' project, focusing on reducing infections, improving care retention, and addressing stigma. In 2024, it provided HIV/AIDS education at the Lao-Thai border, engaged individuals in outreach and mental health and psychosocial support activities, and facilitated health check-ups and ART support. The first aid project, including psychological first aid, trained staff and students, and will continue until 2025. Additionally, the National Blood Transfusion Institute has strengthened blood services, increasing blood donations and improving thalassemia care.

#### Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Lao Red Cross strengthened its commitment to protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) by completing due diligence on child protection and PSEA policies, aligning with international standards. Leadership briefings and staff training enhanced the integration of PGI and CEA principles across programs, with a key achievement being their incorporation into the cash distribution programme to ensure fair and transparent assistance. Additionally, a PGI communication plan was developed to promote inclusion during the distribution process.

#### **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 committee. The Lao Red Cross implemented a programme to strengthen institutional preparedness across the country and is extending it through 2024, with a focus on community-level activities. The National Society also engaged with government representatives to adopt policies and regulations in line with the Red Cross Law.

## **Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS**

In 2024, leadership changes and restructuring at the Lao Red Cross led to the discontinuation of many National Society development activities. By August, the Lao Red Cross shifted its focus entirely to flood emergency response operations, halting all National Society development work such as the Red Ready project, with response efforts continuing through December.

# Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE 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 <u>early warning early action</u> 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 <u>early warning early action systems</u> 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 guarters of 2024.

In October 2024, the Lao Red Cross held a preparedness for effective response (PER) assessment review workshop with representatives from the National Society headquarters, its 18 branches and the Swiss Red Cross in Laos. The workshop evaluated the recent flood response efforts, analysing key successes and areas for improvement using the PER framework. It also integrated climate change and <u>anticipatory action</u> considerations into the National Society's existing PER framework. Eleven components requiring improvement were identified, with specific actions and activities planned for the next two years.

A CEWS training has been planned for early 2025 to introduce the concept of the early warning systems to relevant National Society personnel, aiming to strengthen early warning systems.

#### 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.

The Swiss Red Cross provided support to the National Society for its preparedness for effective response assessment review workshop.



Lao Red Cross volunteers delivering cash aid to over 5,000 flood-affected families across eight provinces. (Photo: Lao Red Cross)



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:

1.

| NAME OF OPERATION       | Laos Flood 2023                               |
|-------------------------|---|
| MDR-CODE                | MDRLA009                                      |
| DURATION                | 6 months (15 August 2023 to 29 February 2024) |
| FUNDING ALLOCATION      | CHF 499,985                                   |
| PEOPLE TARGETED         | 20,930  |
| LATEST OPERATION UPDATE | DREF Operation Final Report                   |

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 499,985 in August 2023 supported the Lao Red Cross in assisting 20,930 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, <u>WASH</u>, and disaster risk reduction.

2.

| NAME OF OPERATION       | Laos Flood 2024                               |
|-------------------------|---|
| MDR-CODE                | MDRLA010                                      |
| DURATION                | 6 months (25 August 2024 to 28 February 2025) |
| FUNDING ALLOCATION      | CHF 500,000                                   |
| PEOPLE TARGETED         | 28,694  |
| LATEST OPERATION UPDATE | DREF Operation Final Report                   |

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. By December 2024, the Lao Red Cross had provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 5,430 families—assisting 28,694 people, including 14,825 women. The assistance addressed the livelihoods and basic needs, incorporating protection, gender, and inclusion measures throughout the response. The operation also emphasized transparency and community participation through community engagement and accountability activities.

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

By early 2024, the Lao Red Cross completed its DREF Flood 2023 Operation in Borlikhamxay and Khammouan provinces, assisting 4,125 families with cash aid, hygiene promotion, and emergency response volunteer training. The <u>community engagement and accountability</u> measures were integrated to ensure transparent communication, while child safeguarding and post-distribution monitoring enhanced service delivery and future preparedness. In May 2024, the Lao Red Cross conducted Emergency Need Assessment and Planning training for 40 staff members, improving their capacity in humanitarian assessments and response planning.

The Lao Red Cross also made progress on developing its emergency response SOP including risk analysis, response strategies and resource mobilization. The final draft of the SOP was revised by the end of 2024 to incorporate priorities identified in the November 2024 PER workshop, with final adoption planned for 2025. The Irish Aid-funded CCA-EWEA

project, running from July 2024 to March 2025, aims to strengthen disaster preparedness, branch development, and integrate early warning systems into national policies.

Under the EW4ALL initiative, disaster law implementation in Laos advanced with the development of a consultative process and roadmap, though fundraising remains a challenge. The Lao Red Cross continues efforts to secure funding from the CREWS Initiative. A proposal for Legislative Advocacy Training was submitted to enhance the National Society's capacity on disaster law and advocacy strategies. In response to Tropical Cyclone Prapiroon in 2024, the National Society distributed relief kits, drinking water and conducted needs assessments in two districts. The Lao Red Cross also secured an IFRC-DREF allocation to assist flood-affected communities across eight provinces.

By December 2024, the National Society had provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 5,430 families, benefiting 28,694 people, including 14,825 women. The response, emphasizing protection, gender, and inclusion principles, transparency, and community engagement, will conclude in January 2025 with a lesson learned workshop.

#### 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.

The Swiss Red Cross provided financial support to the National Society in developing its SOP for emergency response.



## Health and wellbeing

#### **Progress by the 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 project focuses on reducing new infections, improving HIV care retention, and addressing stigma. In 2024, the Lao Red Cross provided HIV/AIDS education to 3,360 people at the Lao-Thai border and engaged 2,496 individuals in outreach and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) activities in Hadxaifong district. Educational materials were distributed, and World AIDS Day 2024 at Simmano High School reached 565 participants. The National Society also facilitated health check-ups, home visits in collaboration with the Lao HIV/AIDS Association and provided antiretroviral therapy support for people living with HIV/AIDS. A rapid assessment with key stakeholders, including CHAS, international organizations, and local authorities, was conducted, followed by field monitoring and technical support to village volunteers. The project reached a total of 7,657 people by August 2024.

Under Phase II of the <u>first aid</u> project, the Lao Red Cross conducted multiple training sessions, including psychological first aid, for staff and organized first aid training and refresher courses in schools, benefiting 482 students and teachers. It also established a committee and hired a consultant to develop first aid guidelines and manuals, with the development process ongoing. For World First Aid Day 2024, the National Society held school events, reaching 239 participants. The First Aid project will continue until August 2025.

The National Society's National Blood Transfusion Institute is strengthening national blood transfusion services by improving quality, increasing coverage and aligning with national and international standards. The project also focuses on infrastructure improvements, promoting voluntary blood donations, and running behaviour change campaigns to encourage regular donations. In 2024, these efforts led to a total of 71,290 blood donations, strengthening NBTI and provincial blood centres and improving thalassemia care across the country.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through technical and financial assistance towards effective implementation its programmes and activities.

The Italian Red Cross provided support to the Lao Red Cross in implementing its 'Cross-border Cooperation on Migrants Living with HIV/AIDS' project.

The IFRC and the Japanese Red Cross Society supported the National Society in conducting training sessions for staff, students and teachers.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in strengthening its national blood transfusion services.



## Migration and displacement

#### **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 Society 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

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

In 2024, the Lao Red Cross advanced its commitment to protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) by completing the due diligence checklist on child protection and PSEA policies, ensuring alignment with international standards. Leadership briefings and staff training sessions enhanced awareness and integration of PGI and CEA principles into the Lao Red Cross programmes. A significant achievement was the incorporation of PGI and CEA into the cash distribution programme, ensuring fair and transparent assistance. Additionally, a PGI communication plan was developed to promote inclusion during the distribution process.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Lao Red Cross for PGI and CEA training and further building its capacity for inclusive and accountable humanitarian response.

## **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 aided the National Society's <u>first aid</u> project and provided support in conducting training sessions for staff, students and teachers.

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.



## **National Society development**

#### **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.

However, due to leadership changes and restructuring in 2024, many activities were paused and by August, the Lao Red Cross focused entirely on flood emergency response, halting all development work through December 2024.

In November, the Lao Red Cross conducted a six-day BOCA Training of Facilitators under the Irish Aid-supported CCA-EWEA project, expanding the pool of BOCA facilitators, enhancing branch capacity, and advancing branch development. The training identified three lead facilitators and recommended appointing a BOCA coordinator at the National Society headquarter, with branches designating focal points. It also proposed integrating BOCA oversight into the National Society's institutional reforms for long-term sustainability.

#### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** 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 provided support to the National Society under National Society development initiatives.



## **Humanitarian diplomacy**

#### **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)

#### 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.

## **Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)**

See cover pages

# Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AFFECTED PEOPLE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

This information is not available in Annual Reports

## **Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

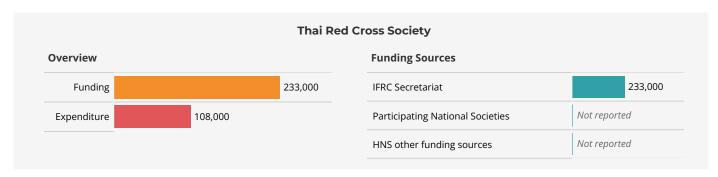
## **Q8. LESSONS LEARNED**

Nothing to report

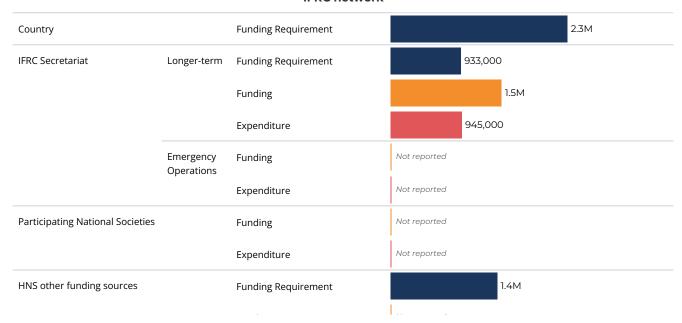


#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

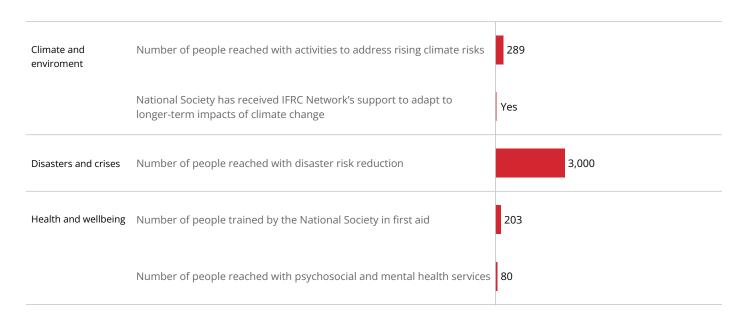
in Swiss francs (CHF)



#### IFRC network



#### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



| Migration and displacement  | Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection  | 7,000 |
|-----------------------------|---|-------|
|                             | National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move | Yes   |
| Values, power and inclusion | Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes   | 420   |

## Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

#### **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, noncommunicable 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

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society, with support from USAID, advanced disaster risk reduction through multiple initiatives, including enhancing the PhonPhai platform with aerial imagery and training staff and authorities in drone use for disaster reporting, alongside training local actors in app-based incident response. It strengthened community resilience by training personnel under the 'Road to Resilience' programme and supporting communities in forming disaster preparedness committees, conducting assessments, and developing response plans. From July to August, it also conducted lifesaving first aid and water rescue trainings across several provinces. Additionally, under the Disaster Law Programme, the National Society collaborated with university law students to map Thailand's disaster risk management legal frameworks, aiming to identify gaps, promote best practices, and foster academic partnerships.

#### Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society advanced public health preparedness through multiple initiatives. 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, it developed a draft plan to address climate-related health risks, though implementation was integrated into existing programmes due to constraints. To build first aid capacity, trainers were certified in a five-day Training of Trainers course led by the Singapore and Hong Kong Red Cross, aligning with IFRC's First Aid Vision 2030. In epidemic preparedness, the National Society partnered with USAID's Global Health Security programme to launch the CP3 project along the Thai-Myanmar border, securing funding for implementation. A planning workshop in December produced a detailed work plan tailored to the needs of vulnerable border communities.

#### Migration and displacement

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society advanced community-level epidemic preparedness with a focus on migrants and displaced populations along the Thai-Myanmar border. As part of its cross-border humanitarian efforts, it delivered relief kits to the Myanmar Red Cross Society to support internally displaced people in Myanmar. The National Society also partnered with the United Nations Migration Network and the International Organization for Migration to launch the Migration Health Sub-Working Group, contributing its expertise from the COVID-19 response to promote migrant health and strengthen collaboration with key stakeholders.

#### Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society strengthened its integration of protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) across operations, notably through PGI training for staff under the CP3 project, enhancing their capacity to deliver inclusive epidemic response. PGI and community engagement and accountability (CEA) approaches were embedded into the CP3 workplan, promoting community participation and transparency. Additionally, child safeguarding principles were incorporated into the draft youth policy, reinforcing a safe and inclusive environment for young volunteers and beneficiaries.

#### **Enabling local actors**

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society strengthened its auxiliary role, humanitarian mandate, and regional collaboration through active participation in meetings, trainings, and peer-to-peer support, including with the Lao Red Cross. It advanced youth and volunteer engagement by drafting its first youth policy and supporting regional innovation through the RCYN Hacklab and 'Be Safe Expo' workshops. The National Society co-hosted the 'Connect 2024' tech conference to promote digital innovation and submitted financial audits through 2022. Supported by the Prudence Foundation and the Climate Centre, it finalized an Early Action Protocol on heat and air pollution, later integrating activities into its disaster risk reduction programme due to constraints. It also launched the 'Project Green Red Cross' to promote climate resilience and sustainable practices, with implementation starting in 2025.

## Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Due to programmatic constraints, the Thai Red Cross Society decided not to pursue the 'Heat, Humidity, Air Pollution EAP in Thailand' project application. Instead, the activities will be integrated into its existing community-based disaster risk reduction programme.

## Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE 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.



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. 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 (eVCA) 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.

Between July and August 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society conducted six basic first aid trainings and one practical water rescue training for community disaster preparedness committees across several provinces. These sessions aimed to equip local communities with essential lifesaving skills to respond effectively during emergencies when professional help may not be immediately available.

Under the Disaster Law Programme, a proposal for disaster law mapping was submitted to the Thai Red Cross Society in 2024. The Thai Red Cross Society in collaboration with law faculty students from universities in Bangkok, aim to support the mapping of existing disaster risk management legal frameworks to identify gaps, challenges and best practices. The initiative also seeks to strengthen legal research partnerships and foster student engagement in the humanitarian sector.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the National Society in the effective implementation of tis programmes and initiatives. It also supported the mapping of existing disaster risk management legal frameworks to

identify gaps, challenges and best practices.



## Health and wellbeing

#### **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 (EAP) 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. However, due to programmatic constraints, the Thai Red Cross Society decided to pause the EAP application process and integrate the related activities into its existing community-based disaster risk reduction programme.

To strengthen first aid capacity, the First Aid Training Centre, organized a five-day Training of Trainers session from 28 October to 1 November 2024. Sixteen trainers from the Thai Red Cross Society participated in the course, which was led by master trainers from the Singapore Red Cross and the Hong Kong Red Cross. The training equipped participants with advanced teaching skills and certifications, enhancing the Thai Red Cross Society's ability to deliver future first aid training programmes and reinforcing its contribution to IFRC's First Aid Vision 2030.

To enhance epidemic and pandemic preparedness, the Thai Red Cross Society partnered with USAID's Global Health Security programme to launch the CP3 project, targeting vulnerable communities along the Thai-Myanmar border. A jointly developed Statement of Work secured a USD 800,000 grant from USAID for a one-year implementation marking the first rollout of this global programme in Thailand. The project also aims to strengthen the Thai Red Cross Society's role in epidemic response and broaden its engagement with key stakeholders under the Global Health Security Agenda.

In December 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society held a two-day CP3 planning workshop with participants from its health stations, national management teams, and the IFRC. The workshop resulted in a comprehensive work plan. The plan outlined clear outcomes, outputs, and context-specific activities tailored to the needs of the target border communities.

#### 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. Additionally, the IFRC provided support to the National Society for organizing trainings and workshops.

The Hong Kong Red Cross and the Singapore Red Cross supported the National Society in organizing training programmes to strengthen first aid capacity.



## Migration and displacement

#### **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.

Additionally, the Thai Red Cross Society has partnered with the United Nations Migration Network in Thailand to support the launch of the Migration Health Sub-Working Group coordinated by the International Organization for Migration. Drawing on its extensive experience in assisting undocumented individuals, migrant workers and refugees along the Thai-Myanmar border during the COVID-19 response (2020–2022), the Thai Red Cross Society has actively contributed its expertise and best practices in migrant health promotion to strengthen collaboration with key partners.

#### IFRC network joint support

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



## Values, power and inclusion

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

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society made progress in integrating protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) into its operations. A key milestone was the PGI training conducted for staff of the Relief and Community Health Bureau under the CP3 project. This training enhanced staff capacity to apply PGI principles in epidemic preparedness and response, ensuring inclusive and dignified support for target populations. The Thai Red Cross Society also integrated PGI and community engagement and accountability approaches into the CP3 workplan, strengthening community participation in decision-making and promoting transparency and responsiveness to local needs.

Additionally, child safeguarding principles were incorporated into the National Society's draft youth policy, reinforcing a safe and inclusive environment for young volunteers and beneficiaries.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Thai Red Cross Society with technical and financial assistance for its activities. It provided ongoing technical support to ensure alignment of the National Society's programming with global humanitarian standards, including the institutionalization of child safeguarding measures and inclusive practices.

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



National Society staff and volunteers distribute medicines and carry out WASH promotion activities for affected communities in a temporary shelter. (Photo: Thai Red Cross Society)

## **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.

The Prudence Foundation, in collaboration with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre has supported the Thai Red Cross Society's air pollution initiative. As part of this effort, the Thai Red Cross Society finalized its Early Action Protocol (EAP) to address health impacts associated with heat and air pollution in Thailand. However, due to programmatic constraints, the National Society has decided to pause the EAP application process and instead integrate the planned activities into its existing community-based disaster risk reduction programme.



## **National Society development**

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

The Thai Red Cross Society worked towards strengthening its auxiliary role and mandate. The Thai Red Cross Society's Youth and Volunteer Bureau made significant progress in several key areas. A major milestone was the drafting of the National Society's first-ever youth policy, developed through an inclusive process involving diverse stakeholders.

Key initiatives included the RCYN Hacklab Regional Workshop, a five-day event that brought together 120 youth from Thailand and across Southeast Asia to develop more than 20 innovative projects addressing social and environmental challenges. The Thai Red Cross Society committed to supporting the implementation of selected projects in Thailand.

The 'Be Safe Expo' School Safety Workshop was held across five regions, engaging over 300 students in applying design thinking to create school safety solutions.

In December 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society submitted a Community-Based Fund application for the Project Green Red Cross initiative, aimed at enhancing its capacity to implement climate-resilient strategies and promote sustainable

practices. The initiative focuses on developing policies and standard operating guidelines for the National Society's business units, raising awareness and conducting training for staff, branches, youth and volunteers to effectively address global warming. The initiative is set to launch in 2025 with a two-year implementation period.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical assistance. It supported the National Society's Youth and Volunteer Bureau in several key areas. Additionally, the IFRC supported the development of terms of reference for a youth-led network to ensure continuity of activities into 2025.



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

In 2024, the Thai Red Cross Society continued to strengthen its visibility, build public trust and engage with key stakeholders. The National 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.

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)

#### **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.

## **Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)**

See cover pages

## **Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR** AFFECTED PEOPLE - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND **ACCOUNTABILITY**

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

This information is not available in Annual Reports

## **Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q8. LESSONS LEARNED**

Nothing to report

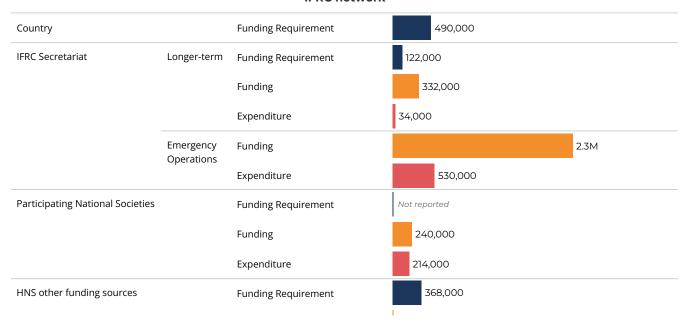


#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

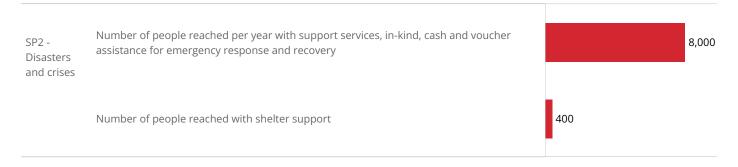


#### **IFRC** network

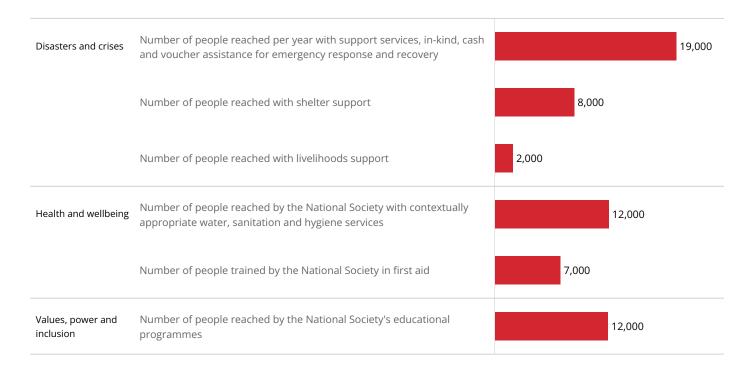


#### **ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS**

#### MDRVN024



#### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



#### IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

|                              | Bilateral Support   |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| National Society             | Funding<br>Reported | Climate and enviroment | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing | Migration and displacement | Values, power<br>and inclusion | Enabling<br>Functions |
| Korean Red Cross             |                     |                        | •                    |                      |                            | •                              | •                     |
| Monaco Red Cross             | 10,000              |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |
| Swiss Red Cross              | 208,000             |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                | •                     |
| Turkish Red Crescent Society | 22,000              |                        |                      |                      |                            |                                |                       |

Total Funding Reported **CHF 240,000** 

## Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

#### **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.

The Viet Nam Red Cross Society has also experienced high-level leadership and personnel changes at the end of 2023 and early 2024. These include the retirement of a Vice President, the reappointment of the Secretary General, and the resignation of several technical staff, including the Deputy Director of the Disaster Management team. At the same time, the presence of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in Viet Nam has diminished. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) phased out its presence in March 2024 and has since continued its cooperation with the National Society from the Bangkok Regional Delegation. The American Red Cross also closed its representative office in December 2023.

## **Key achievements**

#### Climate and environment

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society successfully implemented the Greening Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative, promoting Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) in disaster risk reduction. Due to its achievements, the project received a cost extension until 2025 and is awaiting government approval. The second phase, running through 31 July 2026, focuses on strengthening institutional capacities, policies and advocacy for NbS, while consolidating lessons and best practices from the first phase.

#### Disasters and crises

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society responded to severe floods, landslides, and a major typhoon by providing multisectoral aid across affected regions. From August 2023 to March 2024, the National Society supported households with shelter, cash, health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, including livelihood aid for 300 households and a water purification system for a remote school. Following the strongest typhoon in 30 years, it delivered relief kits and carried out cash assistance training and a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis.

#### Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society expanded its first aid programme by maintaining existing training for staff and volunteers while introducing commercial first aid services and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to enhance sustainability. It conducted training in schools, reaching participants with sessions on first aid, fire escape, traffic safety and drowning prevention. Participants learned and practiced essential skills such as CPR and wound care. Regionally, Vietnam designated two MHPSS focal points and actively participated in Asia Pacific MHPSS Network meetings to share best practices and strengthen mental health support efforts.

#### Migration and displacement

The Vietnam Red Cross Society worked on assessing 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 integrated protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) into its emergency operations by completing a child safeguarding risk analysis, finalizing a due diligence checklist on child protection and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and conducting PGI and CEA training sessions for leadership, project managers and staff.

#### **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.

## **Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS**

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society underwent leadership transitions and organizational restructuring. One of the three vice presidents retired, resulting in a single vice president overseeing all thematic departments.

## Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC **NETWORK ACTION**

## **ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page: Viet Nam

| Name                  | Cyclone Typhoon Yagi   |
|-----------------------|--|
| Appeal number         | MDRVN024   |
| Duration              | 14 months (18/9/2024 to 30/9/2025)   |
| People to be assisted | 130,000  |
| Funding requirements  | Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 4.5 million IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 4 million |
| Emergency Appeal      | Cyclone Typhoon Yagi   |
| Operational Strategy  | Revised Operational Strategy   |
| Latest Operation      | Latest Operations Update   |

Typhoon Yagi made landfall in Quang Ninh Province and Hai Phong City on 7 September 2024, bringing torrential rain and winds exceeding 200 km/h. Although the typhoon dissipated by 8 September, it caused severe flooding and landslides, particularly in northern mountainous areas and urban regions like Hanoi. By 14 September, the storm had resulted in significant casualties, with over 130,000 people evacuated and widespread damage across 26 provinces. The hardest-hit areas, including Lao Cai, Yen Bai, and Tuyen Quang, declared a state of emergency. The storm also caused extensive damage to homes, infrastructure, and farmland, leaving many communities vulnerable to further risks.

As of 12 September, over 130,000 individuals had been displaced, and the floodwaters remained high in many areas. There was severe damage to infrastructure, including power lines, roads, and buildings. Additionally, around three million people were without access to safe drinking water, and 550 health facilities were damaged, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks. The humanitarian situation is dire, with over two million children at risk due to school closures and disruptions in education. The Viet Nam Red Cross and partners continue to provide urgent relief, including search and rescue, temporary shelter, and water, sanitation, and health support.

#### Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The operational strategy aims to prepare for and respond to humanitarian needs of people affected by the cyclone. The Vietnam Red Cross Society's emergency operation strategy involves close coordination with the National Steering Committee for Disaster Prevention and Control, local authorities, and its extensive network of local disaster response teams. This includes pre-positioned relief items, ready-to-deploy response teams and established transportation and logistical channels, enabling quick resource mobilization. As soon as Typhoon Yagi struck, the National Society response teams, supported by community-based volunteers, began providing immediate relief, delivering household kits, cash assistance, and essential supplies to affected communities.

By 17 September 2024, the National Society had already distributed assistance valued at CHF 298,000 to over 41,500 people in 15 provinces. This support included cash assistance and a wide range of relief goods, such as 3,200 household kits, 100 shelter repair kits, and 3,300 food packages. The National Society facilitated the distribution, using existing agreements with suppliers and leveraging free postal, railway and airline services to ensure swift delivery. The highlights of the assistance are:

**Shelter**: Relief items were provided to households across seven provinces, which include blankets, mosquito nets, cookware, plastic bins and hygiene supplies. Additionally, home repair kits were distributed in Lao Cai province.

**Livelihoods:** Livelihood support was provided to a total of 600 households through a conditional cash assistance, followed by post-distribution monitoring to gather feedback from recipients.

**Multi-purpose cash:** Multi-purpose cash was provided to households directly affected by floods in targeted communities. Community committees are established and trained.

**Health and care including water, sanitation and hygiene:** Emergency health services, including first aid, <u>mental health and psychosocial support</u> and <u>water, sanitation and hygiene</u> interventions were provided to the most affected individuals.

**Protection, Gender and Inclusion:** Minimum Standards on protection, gender and inclusion were encouraged through training and consultations. Staff and volunteers received orientation on <u>protection, gender and inclusion</u> principles. A Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis was also conducted.

**Community engagement and accountability:** Staffs and volunteers were trained with necessary skills and knowledge. This training was integrated across all sectors of the operation. The <u>community engagement and accountability</u> trainings were combined with the PGI training.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



#### **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, while building on achievements from the previous phase. The second phase is expected to run until 31 July 2026.

#### IFRC network joint support

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



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:

| NAME OF OPERATION       | <u>Viet Nam Flash Floods 2023</u>          |
|-------------------------|--|
| 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 | DREF Operations update                     |

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**

In 2024, 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 providing shelter, cash assistance, health services, and WASH support to floodand landslide-affected communities in four provinces. Under this DREF operation, the Vietnam Red Cross Society provided relief assistance to 1,200 households affected by the flash floods in Vietnam. The National Society provided multi-purpose cash assistance, supported 300 households with livelihoods, distributed 150 water tanks and installed a water purification unit at a remote school in Yen Bai province. The operation also included WASH training to improve community health and sanitation.

In September 2024, Vietnam experienced its strongest typhoon in 30 years, causing severe flooding, landslides and extensive damage across 26 provinces. By the end of the year, the Vietnam Red Cross Society had distributed 1,850 relief kits and 100 home repair kits to approximately 7,800 people in seven provinces. The National Society also completed beneficiary selection training for cash assistance and conducted a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis.

#### 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. Additionally, it also facilitated an online training on protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability.



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

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society prepared the expansion of its first aid programme. 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 (MHPSS), to enhance the scope and sustainability of its programming.

The National Society organized training courses in 18 schools, each hosting one session for teachers and one for students. A school-wide event on First Aid and School Safety, which included fire escape procedures, traffic safety and drowning prevention, reached a total of 6,873 participants. During these sessions, participants gained Level 1 First Aid knowledge and practiced essential first aid techniques for common local accidents, such as CPR, bandaging cuts and scrapes, safely moving injured individuals and wound care.

To further expand mental health and psychosocial support in the Asia Pacific region, each National Society has designated focal points, including one in Thailand, one in Laos, one in Cambodia, and two in Vietnam. Regular online Asia Pacific MHPSS Network meetings have promoted peer learning and collaboration, allowing National Societies to share experiences, enhance skills and adopt best practices for more effective MHPSS interventions.

#### 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.

The Republic of Korea National Red Cross supported the National Society in building volunteer capacity in first aid.



## Migration and displacement

#### **Progress by the 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

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

In 2024, the Vietnam Red Cross Society made efforts to integrate protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) into its emergency operations. The National Society completed the child safeguarding risk analysis during the planning of the Emergency Appeal operation and finalized the due diligence checklist on child protection and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policies. The National Society also organized PGI and CEA briefings and training sessions for its leadership, project managers and staff.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the Vietnam Red Cross Society in the implementation of its protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability 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 Vietnam Red Cross Society has received support from the Cambodian Red Cross Society, Singapore Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent, Republic of Korea National Red Cross, Thai Red Cross Society and the Red Cross Society of China through the Embassy of China in Viet Nam.

The Republic of Korea National Red Cross has been supporting the National Society in a three-year youth and volunteering development project since June 2022. It aims to strengthen the capacity of youth and volunteers in emergency response and community work, in particular: the development of reference materials for capacity building, improving disaster resilience in schools and communities and strengthening disaster response capabilities.

The Swiss Red Cross supported the Vietnam Red Cross Society with its three-year project on resource mobilisation development to enhance the financial sustainability and independence of the National Society. The project ended in September 2024.

#### 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. 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 newlyadopted Seville Agreement 2.0.

The ICRC continues to support the National Society through its regional delegation in Bangkok after closing its offices in Hanoi. It provides its expertise in activities such as restoring family links, helping vulnerable communities and the promotion of international humanitarian law.

#### **External coordination**

The Vietnam Red Cross Society is actively represented at South East Asia Networks for protection, gender, and inclusion, 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 strengthened its communications capacity through a series of trainings. The National Society conducted media management and digital communication training for communication leaders, covering Movement principles, emblem use and social media management. A second session for remaining chapters took place in July.

In October 2024, multiple online training sessions on managing the National Society's Facebook page for key staff from headquarters and branches. The training equipped participants with skills in article writing, storytelling, fan page

management, photography and content planning. The interactive sessions enhanced participants' understanding of Red Cross history and principles.

#### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in strengthening its communications capacity.

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



#### **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)

#### **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 implementing its relief and recovery interventions.

## **Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)**

See cover pages

# Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AFFECTED PEOPLE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

This information is not available in Annual Reports

## **Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY**

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## **Q8. LESSONS LEARNED**

Nothing to report

# ANNEX 1. IFRC APPLICATION OF THE 8+3 REPORTING TEMPLATE

The IFRC network structures its result-based management along five Strategic priorities and four Enabling functions, developed based on the IFRC network's <a href="Strategy 2030">Strategy 2030</a>:

| IFRC network Strategic Priorities  | IFRC network Enabling Functions              |
|------------------------------------|--|
| SP 1 - Climate and environment     | EF 1- Strategic and operational coordination |
| SP 2 - Disasters and crises        | EF 2 - National Society development          |
| SP 3 - Health and wellbeing        | EF 3 - Humanitarian diplomacy                |
| SP 4 - Migration and displacement  | EF 4 - Accountability and agility            |
| SP 5 - Values, power and inclusion |  |

The Federation-wide results matrix provides a standard way for the IFRC network to measure its progress towards Strategy 2030 implementation and supports consistent quality of the IFRC network planning, monitoring and reporting. To further advance coherence in monitoring across the IFRC network, a Federation-wide Indicator Bank has been developed and integrated into the Federation-wide monitoring systems for emergencies and longer-term work, structured along the Federation-wide results matrix as well. Signatory of the Grand Bargain Agreement, the IFRC has committed to its monitoring and reporting standards through integration of the 8+3 reporting template contents into its results-based management approach. The following mapping demonstrate the way in which this report aligns with 8+3 reporting:

| 8+3 template                                  | IFRC network Annual Report (with variance in structure in red)                                       |  |
|---|--|--|
| Core Questions                                |  |  |
| 1. Overall Performance                        | Overall Performance  |  |
| 2. Changes and Amendments                     | Changes and amendments   |  |
| 3. Measuring Results                          | Measuring Results  |  |
| 4. Affected Persons                           | Cover pages with indicators values   |  |
| 5. Participation & AAP                        | Under Q3 Strategic Priority 5: Values, power and inclusion – Community Engagement and Accountability |  |
| 6. Risk management                            | Risk management  |  |
| 7. Exit Strategy and Sustainability           | Under Q3 sub-sections by Strategic Priority/Enabling Function where relevant                         |  |
| 8. Lessons Learned                            | Lessons learned  |  |
| Additional Questions                          |  |  |
| 1. Value for Money/ Cost Effectiveness        | Not included in annual reports   |  |
| 2. Visibility                                 | Not included in annual reports   |  |
| 3. Coordination                               | Under Q3 Enabling Function 1: Strategic and operational coordination                                 |  |
| 4. Implementing Partners                      | Cross-cutting, with a focus on support to localization through the Q3 Enabling Functions 1 to 4      |  |
| 5. Activities or Steps Towards implementation | Cross-cutting in Q3 Strategic Priorities and Enabling Functions                                      |  |
| 6. Environment                                | Under Q3 Strategic Priority 1: Climate and environment   |  |



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

#### **DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS**

- Timeframe and alignment: The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies.
- **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 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'. Also note that funding requirements are already reflected in the published 2024 IFRC network country plan. The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network has sought to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities.
  - » Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
  - » Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
  - » IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- 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) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

#### **Definitions:**

- » Local units: ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
- Branches: A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- KH\_Cambodia AR Financials(Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit.)
- LA\_Laos AR Financials(Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit. For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see MDRLA009, MDRLA010)
- TH\_Thailand AR Financials (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit.)
- VN\_Vietnam AR Financials (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit. For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see MDRVN023)
- IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans
- Subscribe for updates
- Donor response on IFRC website
- Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) data
- Operational information: IFRC GO platform
- National Society data: IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
- Evaluations database

#### **Contact information**

| Cambodian Red Cross Society | Lao Red Cross        | Thai Red Cross Society | Vietnam Red Cross Society |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| redcross.org.kh             | <b>Lao Red Cross</b> | redcross.or.th         | redcross.org.vn/          |

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