



Myanmar Red Cross volunteers providing drinking water to Cyclone Mocha-affected communities from Sittwe Township on 21 May 2023. **Credit: MRCS.**

Appeal No: <b>MDRMM018</b>	To be assisted: <b>37,500 people (7500 households)</b>	Appeal launched: <b>17/05/2023</b>
Glide No: <a href="#">TC-2023-000069-MMR</a>	DREF allocated: <b>CHF 700,000</b>	Disaster Categorisation: <b>Orange</b>
Operation start date: <b>15/05/2023</b>	Operation end date: <b>31/05/2024</b>	

**IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 3.5 million**  
**Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 5 million**



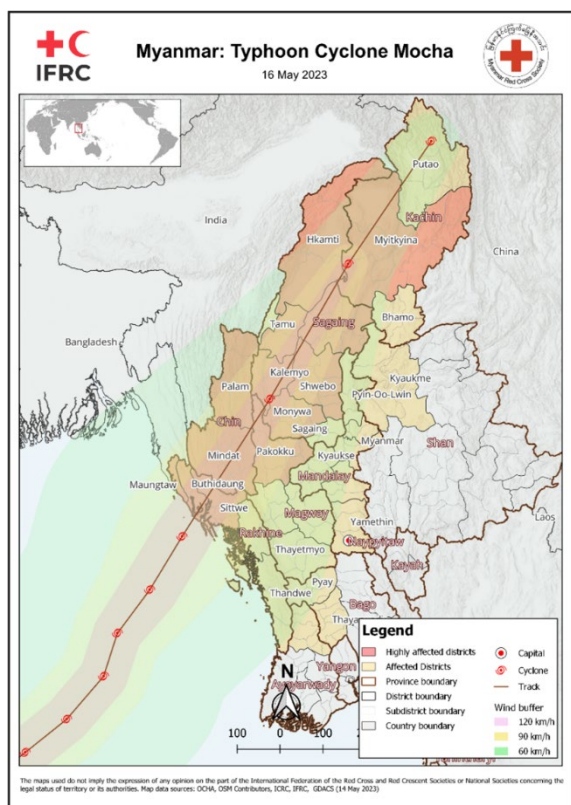
Myanmar Red Cross medical team deployed in Sittwe Township, Rakhine state, providing health care to communities through a mobile clinic on 22 May 2023. **Credit: MRCS.**

## TIMELINE

- 10 May 2023:** a Tropical Depression turned into Cyclonic Storm Mocha over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and the adjoining South Andaman Sea. On 13 May, Cyclone Mocha moved further north-eastwards over the Bay of Bengal and intensified to an Extremely Severe Cyclone.
- 14 May 2023:** Cyclone Mocha made landfall in Rakhine State, Myanmar, as an Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm with winds gusting up to 230-250 km/h. On the same day at local time 6:30 pm. Mocha reached Haka Township in Chin State.
- 15 May:** Cyclone Mocha reached Sagaing region as a deep land depression with a wind speed of 78 km/h.
- 15-16 May:** The State Administration Council declared all 17 townships of Rakhine state and four townships in Chin State (Tiddim, Matupi, Paletwa and Hakha) as disaster affected areas under section 11 of the Natural Disaster Management Law.
- 16 May:** The MRCS requested that the IFRC launch an Emergency Appeal to support its response plan to Cyclone Mocha and began relief and immediate assistance activities.
- 17 May:** The IFRC's Emergency Appeal was launched for CHF 5 million (with a CHF 700,000 DREF allocation) aiming to reach 7,500 of the most vulnerable households (37,500 people) in the worst affected areas of Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Sagaing, and Ayeyarwady.



# DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



16 May, a similar announcement was made for four townships in Chin state (Tiddim, Matupi, Paletwa and Hakha).

## Severity of humanitarian conditions

1. Impact on the accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services.

According to preliminary data collected during the identification of impact and needs carried out by MRCS branches through over 900 volunteers active on the ground, over 237,000 households across more than five states and regions have been affected by the strong winds, intense rainfall, flooding, and landslides which have accompanied the landfall of Cyclone Mocha.

In Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Sagaing, and Ayeyarwady, complete destruction or severe damage was reported to water supplies and sanitation facilities, public infrastructure (for example, some sources identify dozens of hospitals and clinics, hundreds of schools, and hundreds of religious buildings as being damaged), transport infrastructure, such as bridges and roads damaged and the airports of Sittwe and Thandwe in Rakhine State also partially damaged. Telecommunications infrastructure was also heavily affected with several telecoms towers damaged. Countrywide, some sources identify damage to about 2,500 religious buildings, over 2,000 schools, over 300 hospitals/clinics, and over 800 ships/boats.<sup>3</sup>

While over 32,000 livestock are estimated as having been lost,<sup>4</sup> the overall cropland area estimated to have been flooded is 1,400 km<sup>2</sup>, with disruptive consequences, especially for subsistence farmers.<sup>5</sup>

More than 90% of houses in Rakhine and Chin are semi-permanent (semi-pacca<sup>6</sup>, wooden houses) and temporary shelters (bamboo/huts), and similarly in the Ayeyarwady region, more than 55% of the

Extremely Severe Cyclone Storm Mocha<sup>1</sup> is one of the strongest cyclones to hit the country in decades, and the most affected areas present an extraordinarily complex and insecure context due to civic disorders, armed clashes, and an extremely fragile economic situation.

Mocha caused storm surges in excess of two metres, strong winds and very heavy rainfall with heavy inundation reported in the low-lying areas of Rakhine, particularly in and around the state capital Sittwe, and in Chin state, Magway, Ayeyarwady and Mandalay regions as well as the lower Sagaing region.

On 15 May, the State Administration Council declared all 17 townships of Rakhine state as disaster affected areas under section 11 of the Natural Disaster Management Law<sup>2</sup>, which recognises the special role of the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) in disaster management. On

<sup>1</sup> Myanmar Department of Meteorology and Hydrology: Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm Warning, No. 30, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> [National Disaster Management Law of 2013](#).

<sup>3</sup> AHA Centre Situation Update No. 6, Tropical Cyclone Mocha, Myanmar, Monday, 22 May 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Estimated data from <https://unosat-rm.cern.ch/FloodAI/apps/MMR/> updated on 20 May 2023.

<sup>6</sup> "Pacca" is a type of house that is partially made of permanent materials, such as brick or concrete, but also includes temporary materials such as bamboo or thatch - OCHA map: Population density and type of housing in Rakhine and Chin states reference, as of 13 May 2023.

houses are estimated to have light roof/walls.<sup>7</sup> As a result, most of these shelters have been totally or partially damaged (in many cases, losing the roof), with preliminary data collected by MRCS volunteers indicating that more than 200,000 houses in the worst affected areas are in need of complete or partial repair.<sup>8</sup> Significant damage to camps for internally displaced people (IDPs) in Rakhine have also been identified by the MRCS, with initial observations noting that tens of thousands of households were affected in 14 camps. A market analysis is still ongoing though steep price increases in basic goods, such as rice and eggs have already been reported.

## 2. Impact on physical and mental well-being

The devastating impact of the cyclone has serious consequences for the physical and mental health and psychosocial well-being of the affected population. Disruptions to water systems are limiting access to clean drinking water and increase the risks of waterborne diseases and large-scale disease outbreaks. Clinics and hospitals have been damaged or totally destroyed, resulting in a shortage of medicines, medical supplies in addition to limiting the capacities to admit and treat patients. Many laboratories and operating rooms are not functional. Mobile clinics have resumed the provision of primary healthcare services in some areas but continue to face constraints in terms of transportation and distribution of medical supplies and access to cover all affected areas. Disrupted or limited access to medicines and healthcare services is increasing the risk of preventable complications

and deaths. In conflict affected areas, people are increasingly exposed to risks from the movement of landmines due to flooding. The disaster is also taking a toll on people's immediate and long-term mental health and psychosocial well-being, given their exposure to traumatic and distressing events. The cyclone has led to an increase in the number of unaccompanied children<sup>9</sup>, highlighting urgent needs for child protection and appropriate support services.

## 3. Risks and vulnerabilities

Myanmar has a very fragile economy, with almost half the population estimated to be living in poverty. In Rakhine, over half a million households had pre-existing multidimensional vulnerabilities with an estimated six million people in need of humanitarian assistance and 1.2 million people internally displaced even prior to the cyclone. In the Ayeyarwady and Sagaing regions, and Chin state, between 50 and 60 per cent of the population was already living in vulnerable conditions, totalling over three million households, and the impact of the cyclone is expected to exacerbate these pre-existing conditions. The estimated number of households with pre-existing vulnerabilities in the Magway region is over 50,000.<sup>10</sup>

Pre-existing and intersectional vulnerabilities should be taken into account, especially in prioritising the needs of displaced people, and of women, children, and people with disabilities within each target group.

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<sup>7</sup> Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU), [Emergency Preparedness Dashboard](#).

<sup>8</sup> MRCS EOC Cumulative Data Collection based on ongoing DANA, as of 21 May 2023 – figures are likely to increase.

<sup>9</sup> OCHA Flash Update n. 9 – Cyclone Mocha.

<sup>10</sup> The last official census implemented in Myanmar was in 2014. The data presented in this paragraph is taken from the projections estimated by the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) through its [Emergency Preparedness Dashboard](#).

# CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

## 1. National Society response capacity

### 1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

The MRCS is the largest humanitarian organisation in the country with a local presence nationwide through its branches in every state and region, and its extensive network of experienced volunteers. The MRCS is an independent, impartial and neutral humanitarian organization; its role to serve independently and voluntarily while acting as the auxiliary of the state in the humanitarian field, in accordance with the Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles, is enshrined in the Myanmar Red Cross Society Law of 2015.

The MRCS has more than one thousand trained Emergency Response Team (ERT) volunteers ready for response and deployment and 44,000 members across the country, of whom 9,285 are core Red Cross Volunteers (RCV) active at community levels. The preparedness and response capacity of the MRCS are supported by 23 warehouses across the country.

The MRCS has over 600 departmental and field-based staff with technical capacities, including the following:

- Disaster Management Department, skilled in leading on complex emergencies, working alongside the Operation Management Unit (OMU) for disaster response.
- First Aid & Safety Services Department, supporting branches with first aid skills and equipment.
- Health Department, providing ongoing health assistance (including COVID-19).
- Logistics Department, with strong procurement, transportation and stock management systems.
- Finance Department, ensuring financial accountability.
- Humanitarian Values and Communication Department to support messaging, focusing on MRCS operations according to the Fundamental Principles of the RCRC Movement.
- Organisational Development Department, supporting branch development and youth and volunteer development.

This operation will also benefit heavily from existing MRCS operations and programmes in the areas affected by the cyclone, as well as from comprehensive internal operational knowledge drawn from lessons learned and recommended practices arising from recently closed operations, such as the complex emergency operation and the COVID-19 operation. Since 2015, the MRCS has also enhanced its Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Platform and co-chairs the CVA national technical Cash Working Group (CWG) with the World Food Programme (WFP) and Mercy Corps, with support from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) as a secretariat. The MRCS is also co-chair of the Emergency Response and Preparedness Working Group, along with OCHA.

Through its ongoing activities, the MRCS has pre-established communication lines with local authorities and community relationships in the affected locations through local staff, volunteers, and branches, which have been allowing them to reach some vulnerable communities and provide immediate humanitarian assistance.

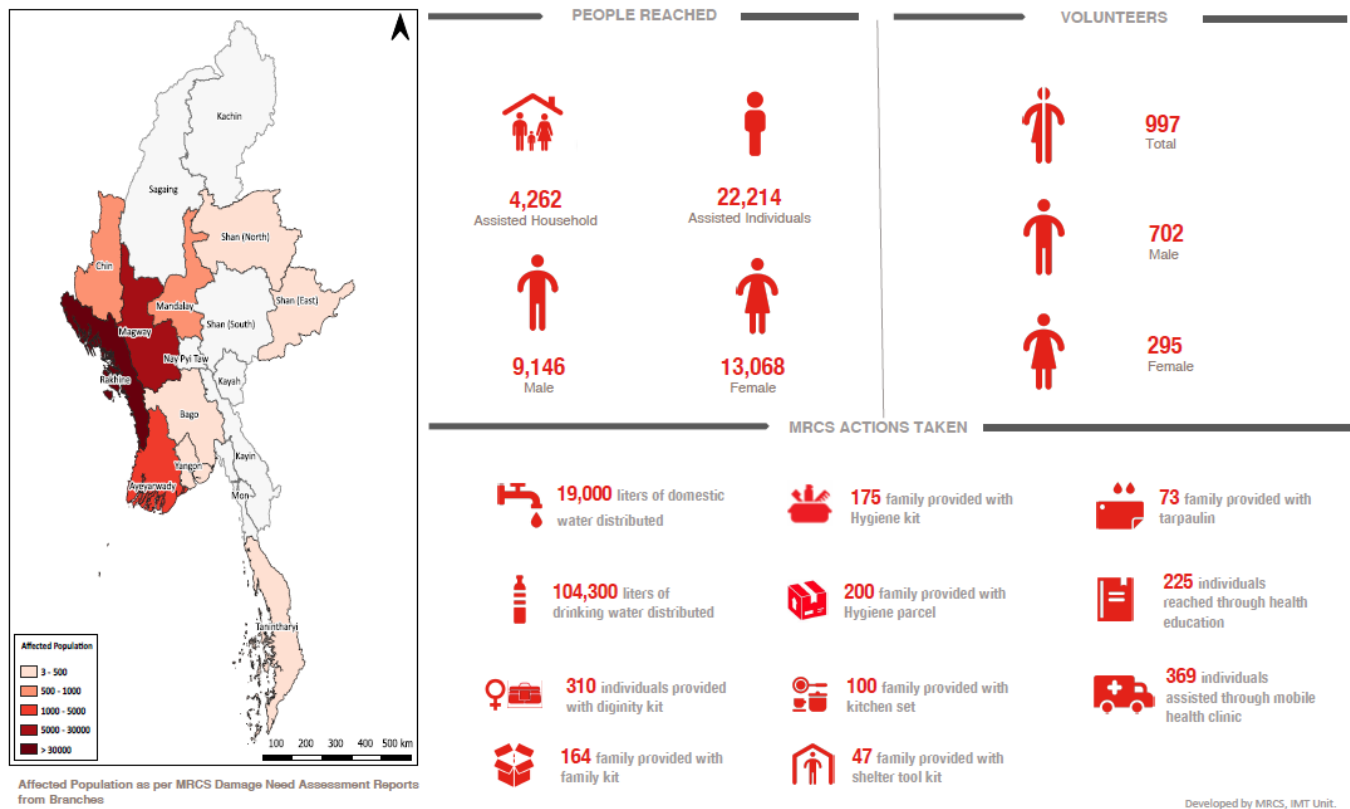
The MRCS, through its Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), alerted its branches and initiated preparedness measures and early actions well before the cyclone entered the country, by 10 May 2023. Prior to the cyclone's landfall, MRCS volunteers in the different areas along the forecasted path and impact zone supported evacuations, conducted awareness disseminations, and collected preliminary data. After landfall on 14 May 2023, MRCS branches mobilised their volunteers to partake in rescue operations, road and debris clearing, provision of first aid and psychosocial support, and initial observations and data collection.



## MYANMAR CYCLONE MOCHA OPERATION

MRCS Humanitarian Assistance Update #01

MRCS MOCHA Response as of 23 May 2023



Infographic 1: MRCS activities in response to Cyclone Mocha as of 23 May 2023.

As of 23 May, initial relief distributions have also been carried out, reaching over 400 households with various in-kind items (hygiene parcels, hygiene kits, dignity kits, and tarpaulins). In the first week of the response, over 100,000 litres of drinking water were provided. As of 23 May, and since Cyclone Mocha made landfall, MRCS mobile health clinics in Rakhine state have provided primary health care to 369 patients, among whom, 225 were also reached with health education.<sup>11</sup>

An allocation under the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), amounting to CHF 700,000, is being utilised by MRCS to kick-start the emergency response. This fund is being used to respond, with a focus on some priority townships in Rakhine, for several major emergency response activities:

- MRCS volunteer orientation and safety and security and mobilization: Over 900 RCV (Red Cross Volunteers) were mobilized country wide. In addition, Emergency Response Teams (ERT) were deployed to Rakhine and Magway.
- WASH Team deployment and water distribution: a WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) team was deployed to establish water distribution points and provide clean water to hundreds of households.
- Distribution of Non-Food Items: Hygiene parcels, family kits, and dignity kits, to meet essential needs.
- Mobile clinic services: Providing healthcare services.
- Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance: Plans are underway to provide multi-purpose cash assistance to 3,500 households.

These activities will be further scaled up to reach the most vulnerable people who are in need, as identified in this emergency appeal.

<sup>11</sup> MRCS Emergency Operation Centre, Cyclone MOCHA Response - Situational Report, 23 May 2023.

## 1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

Under the Natural Disaster Management Law, the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC), the highest decision-making body for disaster management, was formed at the national level chaired by the State Administration Council and co-chaired by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as by Chief Ministers at the state and regional levels. Working committees and community groupings have been organised in the post-disaster response to manage the key steps in assessing the damage, search and rescue, providing immediate relief, restoring basic services, clean-up and debris removal, reconstruction and recovery, psychological support, implementing a recovery plan, and building resilience.

Humanitarian actors, including civil society, are seeking to provide humanitarian services to the most impacted communities, especially in Rakhine, Chin, Sagaing, Magway, and Kachin. Humanitarian partners have begun reaching people through community-based organisations in the affected communities in various townships, where pre-existing operations and mobile health teams had been operational.

## 2. International capacity and response

### 2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

#### **IFRC membership**

The IFRC Country Delegation in Myanmar is strategically and technically supporting the MRCS in programme and operations coordination and actively engaging to leverage the strength of the IFRC network while contributing to humanitarian diplomacy. The IFRC membership represented in Myanmar includes the Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross. Close remote coordination has also been established with partners based outside the country, in particular, with the American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, and British Red Cross, while several other member National Societies, such as the Italian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, Thai Red Cross, and Singapore Red Cross continue to support the MRCS.

The support from members touches all MRCS services, with a strong focus on institutional strengthening, including financial sustainability, people management with specific attention to the development of volunteers and youth engagement, systems management, including planning, monitoring, evaluations and reporting (PMER), and information management. This support is aligned with and supports the strategic objective of the MRCS in promoting branch development as a prerequisite for decentralisation.

The in-country membership support MRCS programmes and operations across a wide range of sectors, such as health (including mental health and psychosocial support), water sanitation and hygiene, first aid, livelihoods, disaster risk management (including through staff on loan to the IFRC), anticipatory actions, community engagement and accountability, as well as protection gender and inclusion, with additional active technical support coming from out-of-country.<sup>12</sup>

The IFRC convened its membership at the country level on the days that the cyclone made landfall, and subsequent to this, at the global level, to ensure there was strong coordination and information sharing on the scale of needs and collective support to the MRCS response. The MRCS has been convening regular coordination and operational meetings, also prior to landfall, to share information and align support within the IFRC network, and also including the ICRC.

The MRCS used its Emergency Management Fund to kickstart its early actions and response, which has been supported by the Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross. In-

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<sup>12</sup> For further detail, kindly see the [IFRC Unified Plan for Myanmar 2023](#).



country Participating National Societies (PNSs) are already working on allocating funding support to the operations led by the MRCS under the Federation-wide Emergency Appeal.

**ICRC**

In terms of complementary targeting, the ICRC will continue to provide support in its existing operational areas and focus on communities affected by conflict. All Movement components will continue to work in full coordination and in complementarity with each other to ensure an effective and efficient response to the cyclone. The MRCS and ICRC teams have been working in close coordination to complement their respective resources for the provision of immediate assistance in response to Cyclone Mocha, for example, regarding the use of water treatment plants to provide safe drinking water.

**2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response**

International humanitarian organisations are continuing to advocate with authorities at both the national and state level with regard to distributions for an immediate response, securing a green light for the shipment of supplies, and access to the affected areas. The UN Emergency Relief Coordinator has approved an allocation of USD 10m from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) while the humanitarian community in Myanmar has launched a USD 333 million Flash Appeal to assist 1.6 million affected people to support the response to Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar, targeting the most vulnerable people within the most severe impacted zones. In terms of ongoing priority response in Rakhine State, humanitarian agencies are distributing relief items, essential household items, and shelter assistance. The WFP is providing food assistance to thousands of affected people. The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is coordinating temporary learning facilities for education as well as WASH sector interventions focused on the provision of clean water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene support. The World Health Organization (WHO) is coordinating the health sector response implemented through non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with contractual services that include mobile health teams, medication support and the strengthening of public health structures.

Emergency shelter kits and COVID-19 awareness were provided to some informal displacements in the Sagaing region’s Kale township. Local partners are planning to provide health facilities and hygiene access to affected people due to a reported rise in diarrhoea across 150 villages in 10 townships in Magway and Sagaing.

The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) has deployed staff to work alongside the National Disaster Management Committee, as well as ASEAN-ERAT members to assess the situation.<sup>13</sup> The AHA Centre has also mobilised relief items such as WASH and shelter items in order to better support the response.

At the country level, the IFRC, ICRC and MRCS participate as observers in meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team, chaired by OCHA, held both during disasters and non-emergency periods. The MRCS and the IFRC are also observers in the UN Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) Advisory Board, and regularly coordinate with humanitarian partners in key clusters, while the MRCS Rakhine team is part of the regional humanitarian coordination platform and regularly attends coordination meetings.

**3. Gaps in the response**

Table 1 below exhibits the multidimensional variables that influence the level of vulnerability of most regions impacted by Cyclone Mocha. These regions have the highest poverty incidence and poor shelter construction typologies. For instance, Rakhine has a poverty incidence of 41.6 per cent with around a 56 percentage of houses with light roofs/walls and huts/salvaged materials, construction typologies most vulnerable to extreme weather events. Rakhine State has the second highest poverty incidence after Chin State, whereas Sagaing, Magway, and Ayeyarwady regions (the most affected areas) are at 31.52 per cent. Overall, the table shows the pre-existing poverty and housing vulnerabilities of families from Rakhine and Chin states, and the Sagaing and Magway

<sup>13</sup> AHA Centre Situation Update No. 6, Tropical Cyclone Mocha, Myanmar, Monday, 22 May 2023.



regions,<sup>14</sup> and as such, the expected destructive impact that Cyclone Mocha would have had on populations in those areas.

States/Region	#HHs	#Popln	Children Under 5	Poverty incidence among pop %	Magnitude of poor ppl	Light roof/light wall	Hut/salvage material	Owner/being amortized
Rakhine	459,772	3,188,807	91,954	41.60%	1,339,299	271,265	32,184	N/A
Chin State	95,760	478,801	65,940	73%	349,525	56,498	1,138	80,752
Sagaing Region	993,926	5,325,350	476,750	15%	798,803	936,985	29,506	1,022,070
Magway Region	838,365	6,165,723	1,057,178	27%	1,664,745	796,116	24,795	850,749
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,387,823</b>	<b>15,158,681</b>	<b>1,691,822</b>	<b>31.52%</b>	<b>4,152,372</b>	<b>2,060,864</b>	<b>87,623</b>	<b>1,953,571</b>

**Table 1: Multi-dimensional vulnerability table. Calculations: IFRC.** Data source, Myanmar Population and Housing Census 2014.

In addition to the pre-existing vulnerability the population and exceptional strength of Cyclone Mocha, initial observations and data collection by MRCS staff and volunteers indicate a large-scale impact and that the following assistance is immediately required:

**Shelter, basic needs, and livelihoods** are now a priority, given the high proportion of houses that have been partially or totally destroyed in the affected areas. The majority of the destroyed homes were made of light materials, while those that were partially damaged had their walls damaged and roofs torn away, either fully or partially. Those whose houses have been destroyed and damaged, or those who have been forced to leave their homes due to the cyclone, are now in camps, monasteries, or hosted by relatives. In addition, some returned to their damaged houses and made a temporary shelter, while thousands of people already living in fragile camp settings are returning to destroyed structures. People residing in camps or in the open, lack shelter and protection from the weather and basic lifesaving and life-sustaining essentials, particularly as the monsoon season is starting in Myanmar at the end of May. According to an initial analysis,<sup>15</sup> about 327,000 hectares of agricultural land could be potentially impacted at different levels of severity by the flooding caused as a result of Cyclone Mocha, with the most impacted cropland areas found in Rakhine, Sagaing, and Ayeyarwady. The MRCS will provide assistance by contributing emergency shelter relief items and multi-purpose cash grants to meet people's immediate basic needs.

Further immediate needs are **WASH and Health services** to the most affected communities. Based on an MRCS field report and OCHA flash reports, safe drinking water and emergency sanitation facilities are needed where people are residing during the relief phase. There is a further need to mitigate the increased risk of disease transmission through risk communication efforts, such as hygiene promotion coupled with hygiene items, which people lack due to displacement and community engagement, such as community meetings and addressing questions, concerns and misconceptions people may have related to WASH and health services.

The flooding also poses a high risk in the occurrence of water-borne diseases and vector-borne diseases, as well as risks of infectious disease transmission in crowded camp settings, with public health concerns, such as respiratory diseases and measles, among others, while there is also an increased risk with the movement of landmines in conflict areas due to flooding. Reports of losses and damage to livestock, farms, and other livelihood assets further increase the risk of food insecurity and exacerbate the likelihood of falling into poverty.

In addition, in terms of **protection and prevention**, the crises impact women, girls, boys, and men of all ages differently, including access to basic needs and livelihoods. Therefore, it is crucial to apply gender and diversity-sensitive lenses to identify and address barriers to accessing immediate relief and livelihoods in a timely manner. Drawing lessons learned from emergencies in the region and globally, it is important to consider issues such as displacement, psychological, and financial stress, increased risk of harm and abuse, including child protection concerns, and sexual and gender-based violence. Referral pathways to services for child protection and sexual

<sup>14</sup> Data from Ayeyarwaddy Region still being identified.

<sup>15</sup> [Tropical Cyclone Mocha, FAO](#), 15 May 2023.

and gender-based violence (SGBV) are, therefore, needed and the identification of needs should be sensitive to protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) considerations while community, engagement and accountability (CEA) interventions will be fully rolled out.

Through its township-level presence, the MRCS is well-placed to continue to reach vulnerable communities in its target states and regions, and to continue to build trust and acceptance in reaching additional areas where needs are high.

As the situation continues to evolve, as the response advances and additional data is collected from the field, this Operational Strategy may be further revised.

## OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Operational constraints relate to **access** (including access to services, security, and acceptance) and **administrative processes** (including access to fund transfers). Access to severely affected areas, particularly in some townships in Rakhine, Magway, Chin, and Sagaing, were already limited prior to Mocha, while the damage caused by the cyclone has also exacerbated the physical access to some of these areas. People's access to assistance is hindered by physical, environmental, and security constraints, the latter of which varies in a rapidly changing context. The MRCS has branches and volunteers in all of the affected states and regions, and also requires humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy efforts with different stakeholders to be able to access specific locations and communities.

Administrative processes for travel, visa provision, the importation of relief and humanitarian items, and receipt of international funds transfers, are lengthy. Ongoing advocacy efforts aim to facilitate processes to enable a swift humanitarian response. In light of these constraints, the Operational Strategy will remain dynamic, with changes to the approach being incorporated where needed (for example, planned cash-based assistance may need to be changed to in-kind assistance requiring large-scale local or international procurements).

In its advocacy efforts, the MRCS, with the support of IFRC, seeks to emphasise the humanitarian, impartial, neutral, and independent nature of its response. Due to the current country context, some communities may have a variable level of acceptance of MRCS staff and volunteers, and the MRCS is working to shift perceptions with a focus on its humanitarian assistance activities and by raising awareness of its unique role as an auxiliary to the public authorities, with a special role particularly in such situations of responses to natural hazards. The MRCS also strives to ensure that communities and all stakeholders are aware of its operational procedures to maintain access to those in need.

### Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in the operation

Myanmar ranks fourth worldwide in its exposure to natural hazards and is ranked second in terms of climate risk.<sup>16</sup> Humanitarian planning should, therefore, take into account the reality that another major disaster can strike Myanmar at any point and require a large-scale humanitarian response. As the monsoon season approaches, there is an increased threat of potentially new cyclones affecting the country.

**Short-term:** The 2023 monsoon season is starting at the end of May 2023 in Myanmar and will continue until mid-September. More rains and possibly floods are expected and may bring further destruction and consequential impacts on an already highly vulnerable population.

**Longer-term:** Climate change projections predict increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events for Myanmar including drought, heatwaves and heavy rains and floods. The MRCS is developing a flood and cyclone early action protocol (EAP) for future anticipatory action.

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<sup>16</sup> [Global Climate Risk Index 2021](#).

The IFRC and its members will continue to actively analyse and monitor operational risks and constraints separately in an internal risk register.

## FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach**, based on the response priorities of the Operating National Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country, to maximise the collective humanitarian impact. This is consistent with the priority given to membership coordination in the Agenda for Renewal, and the IFRC Secretariat continues to strengthen and prioritize its coordination with the membership at both strategic and operational levels.

The Federation-wide funding requirement for this Emergency Appeal comprises all support and funding to be channelled to the Operating National Society in the response to the emergency event. This includes the Operating National Society's domestic fundraising ask, the fundraising ask of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat.

The IFRC convened its membership at the country level on the days that the cyclone made landfall, and subsequently, at the global level, to ensure there was strong coordination and information sharing on the scale of the needs and collective support to the MRCS response. The MRCS has been convening regular coordination and operational meetings, including Movement Coordination Meetings and Emergency Operation Meetings, also prior to landfall, to share information and align support within Movement partners. The IFRC, ICRC, and MRCS continue to also closely coordinate at the strategic level through regular tripartite meetings as well as communications and security technical working groups.

The IFRC network is working in coordination and complementarity to ensure an effective and efficient response to the cyclone. The MRCS and IFRC jointly facilitated membership coordination meetings to brainstorm on the Operational Strategy and align efforts through collective and collaborative support. This includes the coordinated development of the Federation-wide Emergency Appeal which is based on a response plan jointly drafted and reviewed by all members following the priorities identified by the MRCS. The response plan adopts a comprehensive approach which also underlines the support received by non-Federation stakeholders. Additionally, this approach includes a Federation-wide monitoring and reporting framework to ensure common accountability and transparency.

A shared-leadership approach was followed in developing the Federation-wide Operational Strategy, leveraging the expertise of the IFRC network and the previous experiences in drafting the Unified Plan and the ongoing New Way of Working. The IFRC is also mobilising surge support for the operations, which includes specific support to the Myanmar Shelter Cluster in support and complementarity to the existing structure. The monitoring and reporting mechanisms related to the operations Federation network are also coordinated under one single reporting system, with the aim of streamlining communications and reporting lines between the MRCS and IFRC network.

## OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Vision

This Federation-wide Emergency Appeal operation aims to provide immediate and long-term assistance to 7,500 households (37,500 people) in Rakhine and Chin states, and the Ayeryawaddy, Magway, and Sagaing regions that are severely affected by the cyclone. This Federation-wide operation will provide immediate relief to those affected through shelter, health, WASH, and cash and voucher assistance (CVA) support, and the medium-term recovery related to livelihoods and disaster risk reduction (DRR) over a period of 12 months. The MRCS

specifically considers the additional vulnerabilities of minors, women, the displaced, persons with disabilities/illnesses, the elderly, and unaccompanied children.

In addition to the response, this operation aims to strengthen National Society Preparedness (NSP) by supporting the repairing and maintenance of branch warehouses and offices as well as by pre-positioning stock capacity to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of those affected for upcoming disasters. Early recovery activities focused on community-based disaster risk reduction and anticipatory action, climate change adaptation, and CBHFA will be included in the operations in connection to the longer-term plans of partners to support the MRCS.

To complement the actions specifically focused on preparedness, all other National Society strengthening components included in this operation are aligned with the longer-term NSD objectives and priorities of the MRCS, particularly concerning branch development, as a prerequisite to decentralisation, and the capacity building of staff and volunteers in cross-sectorial thematic areas, such as PMER, IM, CEA and PGI. An additional focus will be on fostering acceptance and understanding through dedicated training to existing and newly-recruited volunteers and on enhancing the capacity of branch leaders, particularly women and youth.

The plan may be revised once further data is obtained.

## Targeting

### 1. People to be assisted

This Emergency Appeal is targeting relief provisions and early recovery assistance to the hardest-hit population of 7,500 most vulnerable households (37,500 people), particularly in Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Ayeyarwady, and Sagaing through Federation-wide support. The IFRC Secretariat will be targeting 4,500 households from the total Federation-wide target.

This operation will target the most vulnerable people, whose houses have been destroyed or damaged, are now internally displaced, and who have not yet received support from other actors. Priority will be given to those with pre-existing vulnerabilities prior to Cyclone Mocha, and also take into account the socio-vulnerability factors of women-headed households, single parent households with children under five, the needs of the displaced, minor-headed households and unaccompanied children, households with widows, the elderly, people with disabilities, pregnant or lactating women, and people with chronic illnesses. Selection criteria will be determined by the MRCS with local community leaders in line with the above vulnerability factors and in fulfilling the principles of impartiality.

The IFRC network and MRCS, in leading the response, are committed to enabling the affected populations to be represented and meaningfully participate in the decision-making process; continuously analysing the specific needs, preferences, capacities, barriers to access, and safety risks for each group; revising and adjusting activities, focusing on “doing no harm”; and leaving no-one behind.

As the situation evolves and further data is analysed, the geographic targeting may be adjusted accordingly. The current selection of areas is based on the extent of the cyclone’s damage, existing capacities and the MRCS presence, and with negotiated access for MRCS teams.

Targeting of the early recovery assistance of shelter repair and livelihoods will prioritise the most vulnerable households and be complementary to other possible exercises to identify further needs and impacts.

### 2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability

Specific attention will ensure that the entire intervention is carried out through a participatory, responsive, inclusive, gender, and disability-sensitive lens approach. This perspective will also be incorporated during the




data and information collection process. The MRCS has gender and diversity and child protection policies that will be used throughout to ensure dignity, access, participation, and safety (DAPS), together with adherence to the “do no harm” principle. Community engagement and accountability will be integrated across the response, with a focus on placing targeted populations at the centre. The needs, proposed solutions, suggestions, and feedback of the targeted populations will be integrated throughout the project management cycle, including planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, to facilitate greater participation of local people and communities.


Targeting will be conducted in consultation with the communities, ensuring that the different groups are well represented, enabling them to contribute with their own perspectives and take decisions. Continuous needs analysis will also ensure that other vulnerable groups are not accidentally excluded, including ongoing engagement with groups who face discrimination, marginalisation, and barriers accessing support (for instance through household visits and focus group discussions, linking to relevant grassroots groups). A cross-sectoral feedback and complaints mechanism will be set-up using a minimum of two different trusted channels and which are agreed upon with the different community groups. Other community members will also use this if there are questions or concerns. FAQ documents based on community questions and the data collected will be analysed in a timely manner and fed back into the decision-making loop through short email updates and verbal updates in operational meetings. The CEA team is committed to clearly explain the programme, the process and scope of services, as well as the mandate of the MRCS to various stakeholders, including community leaders, men, women, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable and marginalised groups.


## PLANNED OPERATIONS

### Integrated assistance

 <b>Shelter, Housing and Settlements</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 1,635,994</b> Target: <b>37,500 (7,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>18,000</b> Female: <b>19,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 1,045,00</b> Target: <b>22,500 (4,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>10,800</b> Female: <b>11,700</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To support recovery shelter assistance for affected people through the provision of emergency shelter relief and the establishment of safer shelters.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing emergency shelter relief items, namely tarps, blankets, and kitchen sets to 7,500 HHS.</li> <li>• Providing solar lamps to 7,500 HHs in the affected areas.</li> <li>• Trainings for staff and volunteers to provide emergency shelter in an inclusive manner.</li> <li>• Provision of corrugated galvanised iron sheets for 2,000 HHs.</li> <li>• Awareness of build back better with IEC based on identified knowledge gaps and shelter interventions.</li> <li>• Provision of shelter tool kits based on vulnerability criteria and a further request from the MRCS with identified gaps in shelter and settlements assistance, in both rural and urban areas. The IFRC and MRCS will explore additional early recovery options for those whose houses have been damaged.</li> </ul>	

*For Shelter Cluster Coordination, please see the enabling approaches.*

 <b>Livelihoods</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 392,987</b> Target: <b>25,000 (5,000 HHs)</b> Male: <b>12,000</b> Female: <b>13,000</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 245,000</b> Target: <b>5,000 (1,000 HHs)</b> Male: <b>2,400</b> Female: <b>2,600</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To provide essential basic needs assistance to most affected households and meet their early recovery needs through the provision of cash grants and cash for work.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision to 5,000 HHs through conditional CVA in the early recovery phase geared to agricultural support.</li> <li>• Ensure PGI and CEA-sensitive early livelihoods recovery action.</li> <li>• E-VCA training by focusing on financial capital cash for work.</li> </ul>	

 <b>Multi-purpose Cash</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 750,000</b> Target: <b>25,000 (5,000 HHs)</b> Male: <b>12,000</b> Female: <b>13,000</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 533,000</b> Target: <b>17,500 (3,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>8,400</b> Female: <b>9,100</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To address immediate basic needs and contribute to the increased purchasing power of targeted vulnerable households through the provision of multipurpose cash grants.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a market review to gauge the functionality and access to goods and services.</li> <li>• Provision of multipurpose unconditional cash grants to 5,000 HHs for one month worth CHF 100 per HH (amount based on MRCS and national Cash Working Group guidelines).</li> </ul>	

# HEALTH & CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

## (MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT/COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 <b>Health &amp; Care</b> <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health/Medical Services)</i>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 770,419</b> Target: <b>37,500 (7,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>18,000</b> Female: <b>19,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 298,000</b> Target: <b>22,500 (4,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>10,800</b> Female: <b>11,700</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Reduce morbidity and mortality through the direct response, preparation, and prevention of emerging health risks in cyclone-affected communities in targeted locations in Myanmar.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and train volunteers and staff on psychosocial support (PSS) in emergencies, psychological first aid (PFA) for children, and survivor-centred approaches.</li> <li>Mapping of actors and establishment of referral pathways for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).</li> <li>Raise awareness of MHPSS through psychoeducation sessions.</li> <li>Train staff and volunteers on recreational activities for children in child friendly spaces (CFS) in humanitarian settings and child safeguarding.</li> <li>Implement recreational activities for children and their caregivers in CFS.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Health/Medical Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community mobilisation, information dissemination, and awareness sessions in different local languages, through audio-visual materials and multiple trusted channels on health and hygiene promotion and disease prevention.</li> <li>Conduct vector control activities in communities.</li> <li>Conduct continuous community health risk analyses to prepare for and prevent infectious, water-borne and vector borne diseases, and other infectious diseases related to crowded populations and deteriorating environmental health.</li> <li>Provide primary health care, including reproductive, maternal, and child health services and medicines including those for NCDs through mobile and static health units in Rakhine and other key priority states and regions.</li> <li>Provide clean delivery kits to 1,000 women.</li> <li>Provide first aid services to the injured and wounded.</li> <li>Provide ambulance services for emergency medical services.</li> <li>Develop and distribute relevant IEC materials.</li> <li>Train volunteers on emergency medical service – ambulance service in disaster management and preparedness as well as on epidemic control.</li> <li>Activate community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) volunteers and epidemic control for volunteers (ECV) for the emergency response.</li> </ul>	

 <b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 985,600</b> Target: <b>37,500 (7,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>18,000</b> Female: <b>19,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 430,000</b> Target: <b>22,500 (4,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>10,800</b> Female: <b>11,700</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate, accessible, safe and potable water, sanitation, and hygiene services.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide safe water to 37,500 people in targeted locations through mobile water treatment and/or batch treatment and by setting up static water distribution points and/or water trucking, including distribution of chlorine tablets and water filters as well as the monitoring of water quality.</li> <li>• Rehabilitate water sources: Cleaning ponds and wells. Priority will be given to communal water supply facilities and households which have identified vulnerable persons.</li> <li>• Train the targeted population on the use of chlorine tablets and water filters and on safe water storage.</li> <li>• Construct emergency and semi-permanent latrines based on consultations with targeted populations with considerations for cultural preferences, safety, access for children and people with disabilities, anal cleansing practices, provision of handwashing facilities, and menstrual hygiene practices/disposal as well as environmental impacts and sustainability.</li> <li>• Carry out environmental sanitation activities such as debris cleaning and solid waste management linked with cash for work.</li> <li>• Train MRCS staff and volunteers for WASH in emergencies and hygiene promotion in emergencies.</li> <li>• Conduct hygiene promotion activities for identified hygiene issues in the targeted population with a focus on prevention of waterborne diseases, safe water chain, proper use of latrines, and handwashing.</li> <li>• Develop, print, and distribute IEC materials taking into consideration local cultures and practices, while focusing on key hygiene issues.</li> <li>• Distribute jerry cans (10-litre capacity) and oral rehydration solution to 7,500 HHs.</li> <li>• Procure and establish solar water filter distribution (500 l/hr capacity).</li> <li>• Distribute hygiene kits to 7,500 HHs.</li> <li>• Distribute mesh food covers to 7,500 HHs.</li> <li>• Distribute dignity kits to 7,500 women.</li> <li>• Distribute menstrual hygiene management kits to 3,000 women.</li> <li>• Train targeted populations on use of the distributed items.</li> </ul>	



# PROTECTION AND PREVENTION


(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION & DISPLACEMENT, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)

 <b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 20,000</b> Target: <b>20,000</b> Male: <b>9,600</b> Female: <b>10,400</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 15,000</b> Target: <b>10,000</b> Male: <b>4,800</b> Female: <b>5,200</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Ensure that DAPS for all is considered in the response through the strengthening of MRCS PGI mechanisms and capacities inclusive of PGI mainstreaming in each technical sector and PGI specific activities focusing on inclusion and protection.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance the knowledge, competencies, and capacities of MRCS staff and volunteers in terms of PGI through refresher trainings on the essential principles of PGI in the response (such as including a focus on PMER for the collection of sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD)).</li> <li>Develop PSEA messaging and ensure visibility in relevant languages in all assistance, service provision, and distributions.</li> <li>Map and develop referral pathways to existing services for child protection and SGBV, and share this with the CEA team for inclusion in volunteer FAQ documents.</li> <li>Identify key community members to work with trained Red Cross volunteers to ensure protection risks are mitigated, especially in overcrowded settings.</li> <li>Adapt response plans based on findings about protection issues arising on the ground, including possible increased prevalence of violence comprising sexual and gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalisation, and other protection-related challenges.</li> <li>Develop and set relevant child safeguarding mechanisms in the operation and MRCS (including risk analysis, trainings, ensuring reporting processes, and nominating a focal point).</li> </ul>	


 <b>Community Engagement and Accountability</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 15,000</b> Target: <b>37,500 (7,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>18,000</b> Female: <b>19,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>N/A<sup>17</sup></b> Target: <b>37,500 (7,500 HHs)</b> Male: <b>18,000</b> Female: <b>19,500</b>


<sup>17</sup> CEA does not require a specific funding ask because it is accounted for as part of the National Society Strengthening sector within the financial mechanism of the IFRC Secretariat.

<b>Objective:</b>	Ensure the operation is integrating meaningful community participation, timely, open, and honest communication, and mechanisms to listen, respond to and act on feedback to collaboratively understand and address community needs, priorities, and the context. Aim to implement Movement-wide commitments and minimum actions for CEA in emergencies throughout the sectors and operation to ensure a transparent, participatory and accountable response.
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a feedback mechanism to collect and answer feedback (including, questions, suggestions, concerns, gratitude, misinformation, and beliefs), ideally based on at least two different communication channels preferred and trusted by the community while ensuring that a standardised and accountable follow-up system is in place.</li> <li>• Depending on the location, set-up or update referral pathways for sensitive complaints management but at a minimum, designate one specific focal point for sensitive feedback that volunteers can reach out to.</li> <li>• Design a community-based plan distribution process with diverse groups from the community and their representatives, for example, through small community meetings.</li> <li>• Communicate the programme's scope and activities to community members in advance, to encourage community acceptance and participation using multiple formats, languages, and channels.</li> <li>• Conduct focus group discussions (FGDs) post-intervention with different community groups and separately with community leaders.</li> <li>• Training on the CEA minimum actions in emergencies for MRCS staff and volunteers.</li> <li>• Conduct multi-sector PDM with targeted populations and communities.</li> </ul>

 <b>Migration and Displacement</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 15,000</b> Target: <b>1,500</b> Male: <b>720</b> Female: <b>780</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>N/A<sup>18</sup></b> Target: <b>1,500</b> Male: <b>720</b> Female: <b>780</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Ensuring access to basic services: Activities take the needs and vulnerabilities of all displaced people into account, ensuring that all services are accessible to them, irrespective of their legal status or any other category.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of restoring family links (RFL) services to assist people who are without news of, or separated from, members of their families.</li> <li>• Ensuring that the provision of basic services is informed by and adapted to the needs and vulnerabilities of displaced people in specific contexts, so that all people have effective and safe access to humanitarian services.</li> <li>• Ensuring social cohesion through equitable provision and access to services for displaced people and for host communities.</li> <li>• Establish a hotline for communications.</li> <li>• Socialisation of the 2022 MRCS Policy and Strategy on Migration and Displacement at the branch level.</li> </ul>	

<sup>18</sup> The IFRC Secretariat will provide technical expertise to complement Federation-wide migration priority actions.


 <b>Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 125,000</b> Target: <b>25,000</b> Male: <b>12,000</b> Female: <b>13,000</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 76,000</b> Target: <b>15,000</b> Male: <b>7,200</b> Female: <b>7,800</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The MRCS influences the decision at the local and national level to strengthen the resilience of communities and raise awareness about climate change with the support of the IFRC.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct EVCA for DRR, WASH, health, and climate change in vulnerable communities, including schools.</li> <li>• Understand community risk perceptions and knowledge gaps on early warning systems, i.e., through FGDs, interviews, and feedback collection.</li> <li>• Promote and/or strengthen early warning systems in selected locations in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>• Promote the design and adoption of climate resilient infrastructure, including water-sanitation and energy services.</li> <li>• Establish youth clubs in targeted schools.</li> <li>• Form climate change and DRM committees.</li> <li>• Train school safety youth clubs on the components involving school safety.</li> <li>• Basic climate change training for youth clubs in different schools.</li> <li>• Train village committees on environment friendly practices.</li> </ul>	

 <b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 10,000</b> Target: <b>35,000</b> Male: <b>16,800</b> Female: <b>18,200</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 9,000</b> Target: <b>35,000</b> Male: <b>16,800</b> Female: <b>18,200</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Ensuring that any harm done to the local environment as a result of the interventions is minimised and mitigated.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p>Some “greening activities” are incorporated in different sectors, such as the distribution of solar lamps, installation of solar panels for electricity, reducing single-use plastic packages for household items, and prepositioning stocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MRCS will opt for greener procurement where possible and ensure safe disposals for waste from their operation.</li> <li>• Consideration of local and renewable building materials (such as bamboo and disposable materials rather than plastic) and building with the environment and climate resilience in mind. If standard household</li> </ul>	

items can be procured locally, a voucher/cash distribution should be considered as a greener alternative to minimise waste and optimise use of renewable or local materials and markets.

- Increase awareness on greener responses, by conducting orientations for MRCS and IFRC members on the “Green Response” approaches and considerations.

## Enabling approaches

 <b>National Society Strengthening</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 280,000</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 198,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To strengthen the institutional capacity and preparedness of the MRCS from the branch level to NHQ, including by increasing the MRCS pre-positioning stock capacity to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of affected people for upcoming disasters. This objective will be achieved by aligning the operation’s actions to the National Society’s longer-term NSD priority of promoting branch development as a prerequisite to decentralisation, with a strong focus on capacity building.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Strengthen Preparedness and Response Capacities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a branch contingency and preparedness plan.</li> <li>• Renovate one warehouse and two branches.</li> <li>• Pre-positioning of disaster preparedness (household items) stock to meet the MRCS target (possibly through a mobilisation table) response items.</li> <li>• Implement a preparedness for effective response (PER) approach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Volunteer Management and Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct capacity building activities for existing as well as newly recruited volunteers in order to build trust and acceptance and with particular attention to building the capacity of branch leaders, especially women and youth, in managing strong branches that are autonomous and sustainable in the provision of essential services at the local level.</li> <li>• Enhance the capacity of MRCS staff and volunteers at HQ and branch levels in PMER (with focus on PGI), CEA, including socialisation to the MRCS approach to migration and displacement, IM and communications, including communications in emergencies and the correct use of social media by RCRC volunteers.</li> <li>• Conduct district disaster response team training for volunteers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Digital Transformation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the digital transformation of the MRCS, with a particular focus on the full rollout of the Information Management System – Module 2 on Volunteers and Members Registration and Module 3 on Logistics.</li> <li>• Support mobile data collection capacity building where needed (i.e., for collecting community feedback as part of the CEA approach).</li> </ul> <p><b>Safety and Security (MRCS staff and volunteers)</b></p>	




	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the security system of the National Society, including through the deployment of security focal points to follow the implementation of activities and systematically include safety and security briefings to all personnel involved ensuring that SOPs for deployments are followed, as well as “stay safe” training.</li> <li>Cover all staff and volunteers deployed in the operations with both accident and health insurance and develop a longer-term mechanism to fulfil, at best, the duty of care of the National Society.</li> </ul> <p><b>Learning and Systems Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure continuous alignment between the institutional strengthening actions integrated in the operations and the MRCS NSD’s longer-term objectives, through regular monitoring and updating of NSD mapping.</li> <li>Conduct lessons learned workshops and a final identification of impact and needs to provide and systematically collect recommendations for future response operations.</li> </ul>
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 <b>Coordination and Partnerships</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 81,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 81,500</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	Strengthen coordination within the IFRC membership and the Movement to achieve technical and operational complementarities while increasing cooperation with external partners.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Membership Coordination</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the MRCS, which is leading the overall response, by ensuring a coordinated approach with PNSs actively engaging in the country and those supporting remotely or supporting the operation through the Federation-wide appeal.</li> <li>Facilitate thematic technical working/advisory groups focused on the operation.</li> <li>Set up and implement a Federation-wide monitoring and reporting framework to standardise monitoring and reporting and ensure accountability and transparency.</li> </ul> <p><b>Engagement with External Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The IFRC continues to represent the Federation’s network in HCT and other representation meetings and supports the MRCS in advocacy efforts at the international, national, and local levels for increased humanitarian access and acceptance.</li> <li>Support the existing engagement of the MRCS with country-level coordination structures, including inter-agency coordination mechanisms, and various clusters/sector working groups that exist to ensure the identification of gaps and facilitating collaboration at the national level.</li> </ul>	

### Movement Cooperation

- The MRCS continues to lead in conveying regular Movement coordination meetings, while the MRCS, IFRC, and ICRC maintain constant and effective information sharing, coordination, and cooperation on respective activities.
- A composite team of MRCS, IFRC, and ICRC communications officers will work together to ensure regular communications.

 <b>Shelter Cluster Coordination</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 37,500</b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 37,500</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The IFRC effectively performs its role as convener of the Shelter Cluster in case of natural hazards, by supporting the Myanmar Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster in complementarity with and assistance to the existing structure led by UNHCR.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of surge support to the Shelter Cluster to perform the roles of Shelter Cluster Deputy Coordinator and Shelter Cluster Information Management Coordinators.</li> <li>• Discuss and agree on minimum standards and the range of options for emergency shelter assistance.</li> </ul>	

 <b>IFRC Secretariat Services</b>	<b>Federation-wide</b>	Funding Ask: <b>N/A<sup>19</sup></b>
	<b>Secretariat</b>	Funding Ask: <b>CHF 532,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	The IFRC effectively performs its role of supporting the MRCS and the wider network in the early action, response and recovery phases, with technical assistance, including through dedicated human resources, in the fields of HR, PMER, logistics, finance and administration, communications and advocacy, and security.	
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<b>Human Resources:</b> All activities will be implemented by utilising existing staff and Red Cross volunteers, and personnel members from MRCS national headquarters and branches where needed. The Emergency Appeal will cover the costs of MRCS staff who will be hired for this operation and the insurance of volunteers.	

<sup>19</sup> This section is on the IFRC Secretariat's function in supporting the MRCS in this operation.

The IFRC will support the MRCS in providing technical and support service staff as required to ensure accountability and compliance with regards to the operation. The IFRC will coordinate for any required surge and delegates.

#### **Communications:**

The IFRC will continue to support the MRCS ensuring strong positioning of the results of their work, with a communications strategy that includes social media visibility and materials such as key messages and documentation of the response action.

Since the onset of Cyclone Mocha, IFRC APRO Communications is providing support in implementing activities aimed to inform the public, and other target audiences, including the national and international media of the situation, needs on the ground, and on the humanitarian response.

#### **Security (IFRC and general support to the MRCS):**

The IFRC, in coordination with the ICRC, supports the MRCS in monitoring the security context through the provision of technical safety and security inputs and also supports the MRCS, as needed, during the humanitarian response.

The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. An area specific security risk review will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e., Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition Levels 1-3.

#### **Logistics and Supply Chain Management**

The IFRC will support the MRCS on international procurement and for the in-country mobilisation and transport of needed equipment to the affected areas, for both response and preparedness.

#### **Quality Assurance and Accountability Including Planning Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, Information Management, Risk Management (RM)**

Reports will be shared in a timely manner with relevant partners and donors, and disseminated among relevant stakeholders for revisions, approvals, and communication also with donors and partners.

A risk management matrix and registers were created and are updated regularly for the operation.

A comprehensive monitoring system will be created (as mentioned above, Federation-wide) that links CEA, IM, and PMER with the use of data collection applications and analysis platforms to provide accurate and timely analyses to inform decision-making.

#### **Finance and Administration**

The IFRC will extend the necessary support to the operation to ensure accountability and agility, timely fund transfers, the review and validation of budgets, technical assistance to the MRCS regarding expense justification procedures, and the review and validation of operational liquidations.

## Risk management

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Challenges to safety and security of IFRC and MRCS staff and volunteers, due to an increase in clashes and violence.	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delayed implementation of operations</li> <li>Restrict humanitarian outreach and services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthened MRCS security framework to ensure appropriate monitoring of the safety and security of staff and volunteers and compliance with current security guidelines.</li> <li>Activity plans to be dynamic in accordance with any changes in the situation on the ground.</li> <li>MRCS staff and volunteers stretched with the emergency response activities, as well as those associated with other humanitarian organisations.</li> <li>Ensuring access to psychosocial support.</li> <li>Maintain tripartite (IFRC, MRCS and ICRC) security cell meetings.</li> </ul>
Restricted access to crisis-affected vulnerable people	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delayed implementation of operations</li> <li>Perceptions of partiality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MRCS, with support from the IFRC where relevant, will continue to conduct advocacy meetings with its line ministry, the Ministry of Health, regional and state level authorities as well as with all relevant stakeholders in the field, to explain its humanitarian mission and planned emergency responses to reach Mocha-affected populations.</li> <li>Keep donors informed of the challenges and potential operational delays.</li> <li>Ensure proactive operational communications to focus on impartial humanitarian action, engage in discrete advocacy to address restrictions.</li> </ul>
Insufficient level of acceptance of and/or mistrust of MRCS staff and volunteers in target areas	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low level of community participation in the operational response</li> <li>Low level of access to provide humanitarian assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MRCS will continue to conduct its dissemination sessions with a focus on communities, together with humanitarian responses and services in all targeted areas.</li> <li>Build a cross-sectoral community feedback mechanism to identify and address misinformation and misconceptions early on.</li> </ul>
Disruptions of financial systems and delayed banking services	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays to operational procurement</li> <li>Delays in providing assistance to the affected population</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MRCS is communicating regularly with relevant stakeholders and banking institutions to facilitate fund transfers.</li> <li>Partners closely monitor fund transfers and manage donor expectations accordingly.</li> </ul>
Access to goods is hampered by localised bottlenecks	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays in providing assistance to the affected population</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular market monitoring to check for item shortages/price fluctuations.</li> <li>Joint procurement to reduce competition between actors.</li> </ul>
Increasingly politicised environment causing challenges to principled humanitarian action	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Misunderstanding of the work of the MRCS and its auxiliary role</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure visibility management, adherence to practical guidelines, and the code of conduct.</li> <li>Increased communications focused on impartial and independent activities.</li> </ul>



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain dissemination of key messages to all stakeholders.</li> </ul>
Challenges to recruit new qualified staff and volunteers in a timely manner	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient capacity to deliver</li> <li>• Delayed response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote volunteer recruitment, including active communication on volunteering and on the emergency response.</li> <li>• Broaden recruitment bases.</li> </ul>
Increased risk of PSEAH incidents	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children or vulnerable persons exposed to violence, exploitation, abuse or neglect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that staff and volunteers are trained in child safeguarding and PSEAH, particularly those in community-facing roles.</li> </ul>

## Quality and accountability

This operation will include systematic monitoring, information sharing and reporting with full engagement of finance, PMER, and CEA staff to ensure both quality and accountability. This will include regular monitoring of the following key indicators and targeted activities to reach the identified affected individuals.

Data collection will be centralised with the different levels of data validation and will be used to produce Federation-wide products such as operational updates, donor reports, an operations dashboard, and updating on the IFRC GO platform, with clear reporting flows and timeframes. The regular response review and planning will be based on the findings and suggestions from coordination meetings, and discussions with affected communities and other key stakeholders, as well as staff and volunteers. The final identification of impact and needs will also be carried out with the participation of different stakeholders.

Safeguarding measures include training for staff and volunteers engaged in the response on PGI, CEA, child protection, and PSEA mechanisms – and a risk review will be conducted. CEA support will ensure that the response is engaging the priority needs of the community with meaningful community participation, together with timely, two-way communication mechanisms to listen and take action on the feedback received throughout the response.

The Federation-wide list of indicators, defined for the operation are as follows (the list may be updated as the operation evolves):

Sector Area	Indicators
Shelter	Number of people provided with basic and safe emergency shelter that adequately enables essential household and livelihood activities to be undertaken with dignity
Livelihoods	Number of people reached with livelihood assistance
	Number of people provided with livelihood and management training
Cash	Number of households provided with multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs
Health	Number of people who had access to temporary safe spaces established and/or operated by the RCRC for the purpose of learning, psychosocial support or recreation
	Number of people reached, assisted with health services
WASH	Number of people reached by WASH assistance
	Number of litres of safe water distributed (cumulative)
	Number of people reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period
	Number of people reached by protection, gender, and inclusion services

Cross-cutting (CEA, PGI)	Number of RCRC staff and volunteers trained on protection, gender, and inclusion
	Methods established to communicate with communities about what is happening in the operation, including selection criteria if these are being used
National Society Strengthening	National Society has successfully articulated short-term emergency and NSD objectives together with long-term NSD objectives
	National Society has identified learning mechanisms to assess the impact of the operation
Coordination and Partnerships	Movement coordination mechanism is described and active
IFRC Secretariat Services	Number of Rapid Response members deployed for the operation
	Logistics department provides constant support to the National Society's logistics unit for replenishment and other procurement

## FUNDING REQUIREMENT

### Federation-wide funding requirement\*

<p><b>Federation-wide funding requirement</b> including the National Society's domestic target, IFRC Secretariat and the Participating National Society's funding requirement</p> <p><b>CHF 5 million</b></p>	<p><b>IFRC Secretariat funding requirement</b> in support of the Federation-wide funding ask</p> <p><b>CHF 3.5 million</b></p>
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*\*For more information on the Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to section: Federation-wide Approach*

# Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement

Figures illustrated below represent IFRC Secretariat funding ask only



## OPERATING STRATEGY

### MDRMM0018 - Myanmar – Cyclone Mocha

#### IFRC SECRETARIAT FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations		2,651,000
Shelter and Basic Households		1,045,000
Items		
Livelihoods		245,000
Multi-purpose Cash		533,000
Health		298,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene		430,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion		15,000
Education		0
Migration		0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery		76,000
Environmental Sustainability		9,000
Enabling Approaches		849,000
Coordination and Partnerships (including Shelter Cluster Coordination)		119,000
Secretariat Services		532,000
National Society Strengthening		198,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS		3,500,000

All amounts in Swiss francs (CHF)

## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

### At the Myanmar Red Cross Society:

- Prof. Dr. Htin Zaw Soe, Secretary General; phone: +95 9 973 101 474, email: [htinzawsoe@redcross.org.mm](mailto:htinzawsoe@redcross.org.mm)
- Dr. Nyo Nyo Wint, Deputy Secretary General for Programmes and Operations, email: [nyonyowint@redcross.org.mm](mailto:nyonyowint@redcross.org.mm)
- Daw Moe Thida Win, Deputy Director of Disaster Management Department, email: [moethidawin@redcross.org.mm](mailto:moethidawin@redcross.org.mm)

### At the IFRC:

- **IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office:** Nusrat Hassan, Operations Coordinator, email: [Opscoord.SouthEastAsia@ifrc.org](mailto:Opscoord.SouthEastAsia@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Country Delegation:**  
Nadia Khoury, Head of Delegation, email: [nadia.khoury@ifrc.org](mailto:nadia.khoury@ifrc.org)  
Rajeev K.C., Delegate, DRM, email: [rajeev.kc@ifrc.org](mailto:rajeev.kc@ifrc.org)
- **IFRC Geneva:** Christina Duschl, Senior Officer Operations Coordination, email: [christina.duschl@ifrc.org](mailto:christina.duschl@ifrc.org)

### For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office:** Mohammad Khairul Zaim Zawawi, Regional Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Senior Officer, email: [PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org](mailto:PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org)

### For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:

- **Logistics Manager:** Olle Kaidro, Regional Logistics Coordinator, email: [olle.kaidro@ifrc.org](mailto:olle.kaidro@ifrc.org)

### Reference



Click here for:

- [Emergency Appeal document](#)
- Link to IFRC Emergency landing page  
[Myanmar: Cyclone MOCHA 2023](#)