



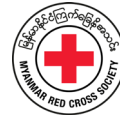
# MYANMAR

## 2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

14 March 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 21.6M**

### In support of the Myanmar Red Cross Society



**330**

National Society branches



**587**

National Society staff



**6000\***

National Society volunteers

### People to be reached



**37,500**

Ongoing emergency operations



**600,000**

Climate and environment



**200,000**

Disasters and crises



**400,000**

Health and wellbeing



**10,000**

Migration and displacement



**5,000**

Values, power and inclusion

### IFRC network multi-year focus

#### Emergency response

- Cyclone impacts

#### Longer term needs

- Health, and water sanitation and hygiene
- climate and environmental crises • migration
  - protection • livelihoods
  - disaster risk reduction

#### Capacity development

- Branch development
- volunteer and youth development
- human resources management
- partnerships and resource mobilization

### Key country data

Population **54.2M**

INFORM Severity rating **Very high**

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **High**

Human Development Index rank **149**

Population below poverty level **24.8%**

*\*Figure updated in February 2024, as per National Society's ongoing digital registration of volunteers*

IFRC Country Delegation Myanmar, Yangon

# Funding requirements

2024

2025\*\*

2026\*\*

**Total 14.4M CHF**

**Total 4.5M CHF**

**Total 2.7M CHF**

Through the IFRC

**6.3M CHF**

Through Participating National Societies

**7M CHF**

Through Host National Society

**1.1M CHF**

## IFRC Breakdown

**1.6M CHF**

Ongoing emergency operations

*\*2024 funding requirement*

## Longer term needs

**500,000 CHF**

Climate and environment

**1M CHF**

Disasters and crises

**750,000 CHF**

Health and wellbeing

**300,000 CHF**

Migration & displacement

**100,000 CHF**

Values, power and inclusion

**2M CHF**

Enabling local actors

Through Participating National Societies

**4.5M CHF**

Through Participating National Societies

**2.7M CHF**

*\*\*projected funding requirements currently identified*

## Participating National Societies

American Red Cross\*

Australian Red Cross

British Red Cross

Canadian Red Cross\*

Danish Red Cross

Finnish Red Cross

German Red Cross

Italian Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society

Korean Red Cross\*

The Netherlands Red Cross\*

New Zealand Red Cross

Norwegian Red Cross

Red Cross Society of China\*

Red Cross of Monaco\*

Singapore Red Cross Society\*

Swedish Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross\*

Thai Red Cross

*\*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2023.*

## Hazards



Floods and landslides



Cyclone



Drought



Earthquakes



Population movement



Hostilities

## IFRC Appeal codes

Ongoing emergency response:

**MDRMM018**

Longer-term needs:

**MAAMM002**

# NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Myanmar Red Cross Society** is the oldest humanitarian organisation in Myanmar. It began its operations in 1920 as a branch of the Indian Red Cross. After Burma formally separated from India in 1937, the Society obtained official national status and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1946. The role of the National Society, as enshrined in the Myanmar Red Cross Society Law 2015, mentions it serves independently and voluntarily as the auxiliary strength of the State in the humanitarian field, in accordance with the Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society has an extensive reach and operates through 65 district branches, and branches in each of the country's 330 townships. The National Society also counts with 17 supervisory committees (states, regions and Naypyitaw Union Territory), and has branches in universities, colleges, and sub-branches at town, ward, village tract and schools across the country.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society Strategic Plan (2021-2025) sets the following three goals:

- Build healthier and safer communities, reduce their vulnerabilities and strengthen their resilience
- Promote understanding and respect for the Red Cross Principles, Humanitarian Values, and International

Humanitarian Law as a means to promoting social cohesion and non-violence

- Strengthen understanding of the Myanmar Red Cross's auxiliary role among the humanitarian sector by developing a strong, well-functioning and resourceful National Society.

According to its Strategic Plan, 2021–2025, with partner support, the Myanmar Red Cross aims to equip Red Cross volunteers, state, region and township branches and the national headquarters with the technical, financial and material resources “to be a well-functioning National Society with the capacity of providing humanitarian services to the most vulnerable people in Myanmar and beyond”.

The National Society plans to extend its traditional emergency response activities – including the delivery of ambulance and first aid services, primary health care, water, sanitation and hygiene services, psychosocial support and protection – while also developing its preparedness through disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and resilience building.

To support these ambitions, the National Society plans to enhance its institutional capacity through branch development and decentralization, volunteer and youth management and capacity building, resource mobilization and human resource management, and partnership frameworks.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Myanmar faces a protracted crisis that has led to large sectors of its population to live in situations of vulnerability. The intervention and declaration of the state of emergency of 1 February 2021 and subsequent developments have further increased the number of people who require [humanitarian support](#). The landfall of Cyclone Mocha on May 14, 2023, added to the population requiring humanitarian aid.

Armed violence and clashes, primarily involving the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and armed actors in large parts of the country, have intensified humanitarian needs. As of February 2024, there are over 2.7 million internally displaced people (IDPs). UNHCR estimates that 2.4 million have been displaced since February 1, 2021.

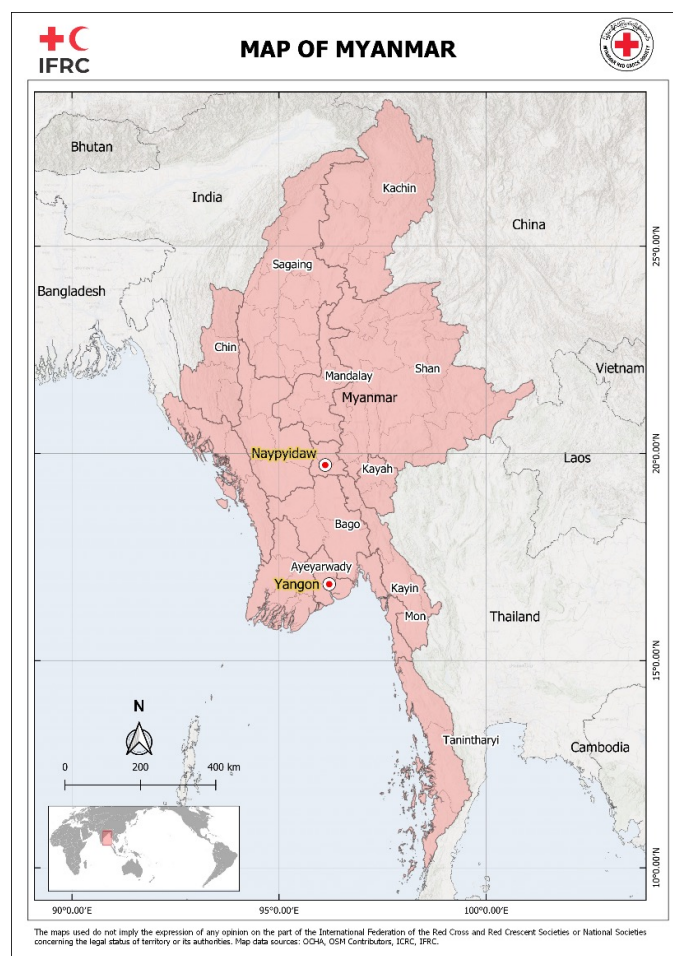
The economic situation exacerbates humanitarian needs, even for those not directly affected by violence. According to the [World Bank](#), “almost half of Myanmar households, as of the end of 2022/early 2023, reported a decrease in incomes over the past year”, with 48 per cent of farming households expressing concerns about insufficient food. Additionally, the World Bank reported an [inflation rate](#) of 16.5 per cent in 2022, projecting a decline in 2023. People in Myanmar are affected by currency devaluation, import restrictions, transportation challenges, decreased production, increased prices for goods in a demand-driven market, agricultural disruptions, and reduced access to livelihood opportunities, particularly in rural areas.

Since February 2021, populations in Myanmar have faced reduced access to education and health services. The World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that Myanmar’s healthcare system has a history of being relatively limited understaffed, underfunded and under-equipped, with a scarcity of essential medicines in both public and private hospitals. WHO also identifies health risks such as malaria, dengue, TB, HIV, vaccine-preventable diseases, viral hepatitis, and non-communicable diseases (NCD), among others. According to the [Centre for Disease Control](#), cardiovascular diseases are the leading causes of death in Myanmar. The ongoing conflict continues to generate and exacerbate health needs, including trauma care, [mental health and psychosocial support](#), and nutrition in relation to food insecurity.

Myanmar is a country exposed to multiple hazards. Due to its geographic location, it is vulnerable to hydro-meteorological hazards and natural hazards, which are further intensified by climate change and environmental degradation. [Frequent risks](#) include floods (and related landslides), cyclones, heatwaves, droughts, and earthquakes.

On the [INFORM Severity Index](#), Myanmar scores 4.6 out of 5. This number represents an aggregate figure of distinct crises in country, analysed based on the dimensions of impact, conditions of affected people, and complexity. The [INFORM Risk Management Index](#) ranks Myanmar 1 out of 191 countries for hazard and exposure, categorizing it overall as a very high-risk country, ranked 16 out of 191 countries, just behind Syria.

Humanitarian access continues to be challenging for all actors in the country. The [ACAPS Humanitarian Access Overview \(July 2023\)](#) classifies Myanmar as one of seven countries in the “extreme access constraints” category, similar to its ranking throughout 2022, citing bureaucratic barriers, insecurity, physical constraints, among others.



# ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

<b>Emergency Appeal name</b>	Myanmar Cyclone Mocha Emergency Appeal
<b>Appeal number</b>	MDRMM018
<b>Duration</b>	17/05/2023 - 31/05/2024
<b>People affected / at risk</b>	2.2 million
<b>People to be assisted</b>	37,500 people (7,500 households)
<b>Funding requirements</b>	Total funding requirement through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 3.5 million Total Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 5 million 2024 funding requirement through the IFRC Emergency Appeal: CHF 1.6 million
<b>Link to Emergency Appeal</b>	<a href="#">Myanmar Cyclone Mocha Emergency Appeal 6-month Update</a>
<b>Link to Operational Strategy</b>	<a href="#">Myanmar Cyclone Mocha Emergency Appeal (Operational Strategy)</a>

On May 17, 2023, the IFRC launched the Emergency Appeal Myanmar: Cyclone Mocha to address the urgent needs of communities in Myanmar affected by this disaster. Cyclone Mocha made landfall in Myanmar on May 14, 2023, bringing about destructive storm surges, heavy rainfall and flooding, and affecting up to 1.2 million people. The most impacted regions were Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Ayeyarwady, Mandalay, and Sagaing.

Through this Federation-wide Emergency Appeal, IFRC and member National Societies aim to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society in the response to the extremely severe effects of Cyclone Mocha. The Myanmar Red Cross-led operation aims to assist 37,500 people (7,500 households) across five regions in the country during a one-year timeframe.

## Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The strategy of the operation is to support the immediate humanitarian needs and recovery of people affected by Cyclone Mocha, especially in Rakhine and Chin states, and the Ayeyarwaddy, Magway, and Sagaing regions for 12 months.

The targeted individuals will be supported through an integrated approach, aiming to meet shelter, basic needs, as well as health and [Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene \(WASH\)](#) needs in the immediate emergency response phase. In addition, for the short to medium-term recovery, the operation will incorporate activities across multiple sectors, including livelihoods, migration, and disaster risk reduction and preparedness, together with a cross-cutting focus on community engagement and accountability (CEA) as well as protection, gender and inclusion (PGI).

The main pillars of intervention include:

## Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

Emergency shelter relief items, including tarps, blankets, and kitchen sets, will be provided to 7,500 households (HHs). Solar lamps will also be distributed to 7,500 HHs in affected areas. Staff and volunteers will receive training for inclusive emergency shelter assistance. Additionally, corrugated galvanized iron sheets will be provided to 2,000 HHs. Awareness campaigns will promote “build back better” principles, with a focus on identified knowledge gaps and shelter interventions. Shelter tool kits will be distributed based on vulnerability criteria, exploring further recovery options for damaged houses.

## Livelihoods

Conditional cash assistance will be provided to 5,000 HHs in the early recovery phase, geared towards agricultural support. Efforts will ensure sensitivity to PGI principles. Community training will focus on financial capital and development of business plans for demand driven work opportunities.

## Multi-purpose Cash

A market review will be conducted to assess functionality and access to goods and services. Disbursement amounts will conform to standards set by national level cash working group guidelines.

## Health & Care

Volunteers and staff will be trained in psychosocial support, psychological first aid, and survivor-centered approaches. Mapping and referral pathways will be established for mental health and psychosocial support. Various community health services will be provided, including primary care, reproductive, maternal, and child health services.



## Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Safe water will be provided to 37,500 individuals through mobile and static distribution points. Water sources will be rehabilitated, and emergency latrines constructed. Hygiene promotion activities will focus on waterborne disease prevention and proper sanitation practices.

## Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)

Training will enhance the knowledge and capacities of the National Society staff and volunteers in PGI principles. Referral pathways will be developed for child protection and gender-based violence (GBV). Response plans will be adapted based on findings about protection issues on the ground.

## Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

A feedback mechanism will be developed to collect and address community feedback. Community-based distribution

processes will be designed, and program activities communicated in advance to encourage participation. Focus group discussions and training sessions on CEA actions will be conducted.

## Migration and Displacement

Restoring family links services and basic services adapted to the needs of displaced people will be provided. Social cohesion will be ensured through equitable access to services for displaced people and host communities. A hotline for communications will be established, and the Myanmar Red Cross Policy and Strategy on Migration and Displacement will be socialized at the branch level.

## Shelter Cluster Coordination

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.



22nd October 2023, With the assistance of the IFRC Emergency Appeal, the Myanmar Red Cross is delivering cash assistance to cyclone affected communities in Rathedaung, Ponnakyun and Kyauk Taw and Sittwe Township of Rakhine State. (Photo: Myanmar Red Cross)



## Climate and environment

Myanmar is vulnerable to climate and environmental changes, often manifested in extreme weather events. The country is exposed to various hydrometeorological hazards, including riverine, urban and coastal flooding, landslides and heatwaves. It is also highly exposed to tropical cyclones and droughts. Climate change poses a severe threat to the country in terms of the impact on these hydrometeorological hazards which will likely be exacerbated. Myanmar has an [INFORM](#) Climate Change Risk of 6.2 out of 10.

Flooding is a major natural hazard and particularly affects communities along the coastline and major rivers. The Ayeyarwady, the Yangon, the Bago, the Sittoung, the Thanlwin and the Atran are six major river basins which are vulnerable to flooding. Yangon is especially vulnerable to high flood risk as it is located at the confluence of several rivers. Flooding occurs most frequently in between June to October which corresponds with the rainy season in Myanmar. Summer monsoon precipitation will increase during the 21st century, with enhanced interannual variability. The frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events are also projected to increase, with potential effects in flooding and soil erosion. Relative sea level has increased at a higher rate than global mean sea level around Asia over the last three decades. This trend is likely to continue, contributing to increases in the frequency and severity of coastal flooding in low-lying areas and to coastal erosion.

Cyclones typically affect Myanmar in the pre- and post-monsoon seasons of mid-April to mid-May and October to November. The impacts of cyclones on coastal regions can be devastating, causing widespread flooding as well as the destruction of property and infrastructure. The coastal regions such as Ayeyarwaddy and Rakhine State or other coastal areas face the highest risk of cyclones and their impacts where events measuring as high as five on the Saffir-Simpson storm intensity scale can be seen. The frequency and intensity of cyclones have increased over the last several decades. Before 2000, cyclones made landfall approximately once every three years.

In April 2023, like many other countries in South and Southeast Asia, Myanmar experienced record high temperatures. In the [Tamu](#) township, located on the border with India in the Northwest region of Sagaing, the Myanmar Department of Meteorology recorded temperatures of 43.8 degrees Celsius. As experienced in Myanmar, highly urbanized and populated spaces create urban heat islands, whereby the air temperature within the city is far higher than the surrounding rural areas.

As the 2022 study on [Climate, Environmental Degradation and Disaster Risk in Myanmar](#), a MIMU Analytical Brief indicates, Myanmar also experiences significant environmental degradation, such as the loss of natural ecosystems tied into unplanned and increased urbanization, oftentimes in coastal areas.

Myanmar formulated a [National Adaptation Programme of Action in 2012](#), and has been in the process of formulating a National Adaptation Plan (NAP), aligned with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This includes a climate change policy, strategy, and master plan.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Myanmar Red Cross is part of the IFRC's [Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, while building community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and most marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services. The Myanmar Red Cross has also signed the Climate and Environment [Charter](#) for Humanitarian Organizations in 2022.

The Myanmar Red Cross is investing into [Early Warning Early Action](#) (EWEA) by utilizing local resources and improving impact forecasting. This involves strengthening early warning systems at both the organization's headquarters and branch levels – in line with the global [Early Warnings for All](#) initiative, of which IFRC is leading the fourth pillar on preparedness and response capabilities.

The National Society also works to enable its branches to play a significant role in promoting climate change awareness, engaging in related activities, working with communities in states and regions exposed to climate change hazards, and advocating for environmental sustainability. This includes a strong emphasis on building leadership skills and conducting awareness campaigns, particularly focused on sustainable "[Green Response](#)" practices. In line with this, Myanmar Red Cross is committed to integrating environmental conservation into its response strategies through the development and enhancement of policies, strategies, frameworks, and advocacy for Green Response.

Furthermore, an overarching objective is to foster collaboration, coordination, and dialogue among diverse stakeholders, such as state entities, UN agencies, civil society organizations, international NGOs, the private sector, and specialized groups. This collective effort aims to enhance anticipatory actions and environmental conservation initiatives. This includes contributing to the National Adaptation Plan.

The Myanmar Red Cross multi-year objectives include:

- Enhance capacities to implement early actions nationwide, based on local capacities in place and impact forecast
- Craft an environmental conservation policy, strategy, and framework, and conduct environmental advocacy
- Enhance advocacy and networking on anticipatory action with local, regional and international authorities, UN agencies, civil society organisations, international non-governmental organisations, and the private sector for more coordinated actions and support for local communities
- Develop Early Action Protocols (EAPs) for the country's main hydrometeorological hazards (floods, cyclones, heatwaves, drought)
- Strengthen climate change awareness and environmental sustainability through trainings and knowledge-sharing in Myanmar Red Cross branches and communities, enabling better integration of these topics into the National Society community-based programmes

## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The Myanmar Red Cross, with support from the **German Red Cross**, **Finnish Red Cross** and **the IFRC**, is in the process of completing two simplified Early Action Protocols (EAP) for heatwaves and floods, to be part of the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) anticipatory pillar. For the former, the submitted EAP is based on the historic trend of increased temperatures and vulnerability identified in urban populations. The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, in collaboration with Myanmar Red Cross consultants, will support the development of technical tools such as trigger mechanisms and risk mapping to establish comprehensive Early Action Protocols (EAPs) for major hazards prevalent in Myanmar, including floods, cyclones, heatwaves, and droughts. The initiative also includes creating simplified EAPs for floods and cyclones, followed by widespread dissemination efforts to raise awareness and understanding.

The Myanmar Red Cross active engagement in collaborative efforts with external partners to address climate and environmental-related challenges is also supported by the IFRC. Increased knowledge sharing and expanding access to training opportunities, particularly for climate and environmental issues is part of the multilateral support from **Australian Red Cross** via the IFRC, which aims to help the Myanmar Red Cross enhance its emergency capacity management. Myanmar Red Cross Society is committed to integrating environmental conservation into its response strategies through the development and enhancement of policies, strategies, frameworks, and advocacy for Green Response. Swedish Red cross and the IFRC support MRCS's Green Response actions.



## Disasters and crises

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

In addition to hydrometeorological hazards impacted by climate change, Myanmar is also a geologically active country, with six earthquakes of magnitude 7 and above since 1930. Smaller quakes regularly shake large parts of the country. Coastlines are also at risk of tsunamis.

The protracted crisis has led to a growing increase in people with humanitarian needs across the country, including in areas previously understood to be stable. Initial civil unrest has spiralled into increasingly frequent and lethal armed clashes between different actors. Population displacement leads to increased vulnerability in destination and transit communities as resources get scarce, and access to livelihoods spreads thinly.

The expanded levels of vulnerability impact larger segments of the general population. This protracted crisis is characterized not only by the persistence of needs for life-sustaining resources but also by the instability and uncertainty of the near future. According to the World Food Programme, 13.2 million people in Myanmar are food insecure. While many are located in high conflict areas, others are in urban centres and coastal regions. Emergency preparedness and subsequent response efforts, such as distributions of food and non-food items, need to be scaled up throughout the country.

## Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Amidst the backdrop of multiple hazards and the current cyclone response operation, the Myanmar Red Cross continues to prioritize community resilience to shocks and hazards, and its own human and material preparedness.



Linked to improved preparedness and local-level resilience strengthening, Myanmar Red Cross has identified the need to strengthen its response capacities for current and future disaster events, particularly to address the needs of the most vulnerable and often overlooked populations.

The Myanmar Red Cross completed the implementation of the IFRC Emergency Appeal Myanmar: Complex Emergency ([MDRMM016](#)) in March 2023. However, significant humanitarian needs remain, and Myanmar Red Cross has continued to respond actively as possible, with support from several partners.

The Myanmar Red Cross multi-year objectives include:

- Expand community and school-based disaster risk reduction (DRR) initiatives, indirectly supporting Myanmar Red Cross' volunteer recruitment
- Establish a food security and livelihoods ([FSL](#)) policy and integrate FSL into programmatic and operational actions to contribute to durable solutions for target communities
- Ensure pre-positioned non-food items for up to 21,500 households, distributed throughout the Myanmar Red Cross warehouse network
- Strengthen [cash and voucher assistance](#) (CVA) capacities of volunteers and staff
- Develop CVA standards and guidelines to increase cash preparedness and readiness
- Strengthen emergency response components such as emergency operations centres, standard operating

procedures, and emergency surge capacity of staff and volunteers as part of emergency response teams/national disaster response team

- Develop an emergency shelter response plan
- Increase logistical capacity with warehouse construction and renovation, procurement and installation of related equipment and software, and capacity development for logistics staff and volunteers
- Community-based resilience into programmatic and operational actions contribute to empowering target communities to mitigate and respond to disasters

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In addition to the ongoing Emergency Appeal for Cyclone Mocha, in October 2023, the IFRC provided an IFRC-DREF allocation in support of the Myanmar Red Cross assistance to 7,500 people affected by floods in Bago Region (East), Mandalay and Yangon. The Myanmar Red Cross has been allocated over CHF 240,000 in funding from the IFRC-DREF.

The participating National Societies - **Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross** – are all supporting Myanmar Red Cross in achieving these objectives in various ways, alongside **the IFRC**.



## Health and wellbeing

The protracted crisis in Myanmar has compromised access to basic healthcare, and reduced resources in the public health system, including for appropriate medical equipment, which has led to a decline in primary, secondary, and third level healthcare services. Political polarization and violence in the country have made health centres inaccessible due to their locations in conflict areas, resulting in increased health needs, particularly in mental health and psychosocial support, and a decline in the number of health professionals in the public health systems.

This situation impacts the control of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), routine immunization access for babies and children, and increases vulnerability to preventable and treatable illnesses, including those caused by nutritional deficiencies. Access to safe drinking water is particularly poor among rural and displaced populations.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society is well known and respected for the provision of first aid and emergency health care in Myanmar. It provides ambulance services across the country.

The Myanmar Red Cross runs primary healthcare services for communities and emergency health services to reach people in need, including in areas affected by conflict. It gives a particular focus to enhancing and integrating mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)) into primary, emergency, and community health actions, as well as including safe referral pathways for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The Myanmar Red Cross actively integrates health promotion into the provision of primary, emergency, and

community health services, fostering a culture of health and well-being.

The National Society [Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene](#) (WASH) services include emergency and longer-term interventions, including behavioural change promotion, with a focus on menstrual hygiene management. Myanmar Red Cross also conducts community-level assessments to gauge the impacts of climate change on health and WASH, a crucial step in adapting healthcare and WASH interventions to environmental challenges.

The National Society actively engages with external actors on various health, WASH, MHPSS, and health-related issues, recognizing the value of collective efforts in addressing complex healthcare challenges. The National Society remains an active participant in the Health Cluster.

The Myanmar Red Cross multi-year objectives include:

- Expand and strengthen primary health care services, including mobile health clinics, static clinics, support to health facilities, and referrals
- Enhance emergency health services, including mobile health clinics and referrals, for targeted individuals in need
- Integrate health promotion into the provision of primary, emergency, and community health services
- Consolidate emergency WASH preparedness and response, providing clean water, WASH items, household latrines, and hygiene items
- Promote hygiene behavioural change in target communities, including menstrual hygiene management
- Standardize ambulance services, dispatch systems, and referrals through a pilot program
- Implement integrated [first aid](#) (FA), including training, FA services, community and occupational/commercial FA, and update the FA Strategy based on the 2020 IFRC [Global First Aid Reference Centre](#) guidelines
- Identify health needs for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and integrate care paths (safe referrals) into health programming
- Enhance and integrate MHPSS services into primary, emergency and community health actions, including training for volunteers and staff and identifying safe referral pathways
- Provide MHPSS services to all volunteers and staff actively engaged in emergency response and programmes
- Strengthen [epidemic/ pandemic preparedness](#) and response for communities, volunteers and staff

- Conduct community-level assessments on the impacts of climate change on health and WASH to inform programming in health and WASH
- Improve coordination with other health entities to respond effectively to the needs of people living with communicable diseases (HIV and TB) and non-communicable disease
- Engage in information dissemination on the control of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and access to routine immunization
- Improve coordination with external actors on health, WASH, MHPSS and other health and care-related issues
- Increase access to knowledge sharing and training opportunities in health, FA, WASH, MHPSS, and other health-related components for Myanmar Red Cross volunteers and staff

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The Myanmar Red Cross works with the **German Red Cross** and the **IFRC** in the area of integrated first aid. A mid-term project review conducted by the German Red Cross in Myanmar and Bangladesh revealed that first aid training for communities, including youth and children, contributes to community resilience long after a project concludes. Additionally, first aid training elevates the profile of Myanmar Red Cross and facilitates volunteer recruitment as it addresses community-level needs. Aligned with resource mobilization efforts, the Myanmar Red Cross recently completed a scoping project on the decentralization of commercial first aid, submitted to the [National Society Investment Alliance](#) (NSIA) supported by the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Starting in late 2023, Myanmar Red Cross will pursue income generation from commercial first aid, supported by an NSIA accelerator grant spanning over several years.

The Myanmar Red Cross pilot project to standardize its ambulance services is supported by the **Japanese Red Cross** through the IFRC. The National Society has a fleet of ambulances of varied characteristics and capacities, including ten new vehicles donated by the IFRC network, with four donated by the **Norwegian Red Cross** and six through the IFRC Emergency Appeal Myanmar: Complex Emergency (MDRMM016) with funding from the **Korean Red Cross** and **Norwegian Red Cross**.

The Myanmar Red Cross emergency and community-based healthcare and WASH services in conflict-affected areas receive support from the **Danish Red Cross**, **Finnish Red Cross**, **Norwegian Red Cross**, **Swedish Red Cross**, and the **IFRC**. The **Danish Red Cross** also specifically supports the Myanmar Red Cross for MHPSS.

With support from the **Swedish Red Cross** and the ICRC, Myanmar Red Cross aims to further develop its WASH unit

within the health department. The WASH unit will create standard drawings for different WASH facilities, revise emergency training curriculum, develop hygiene promotion in emergency training, update emergency items, and provide

WASH related trainings to Myanmar Red Cross staff and volunteers.

The **Australian Red Cross** and IFRC support the MRCS to strengthen epidemic and pandemic preparedness.



## Migration and displacement

There are 2.6 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Myanmar. The UNHCR identifies 3.2 million population of concern. There is an upward trend of the number of IDPs in the country. The protracted crisis also results in individuals aiming to emigrate abroad, often in extremely perilous conditions by sea and land. The vulnerability of populations in transit and destination communities also grows as resources get scarce, and access to livelihoods spreads thinly.

Simultaneously, the State Administration Council (SAC) IDP camp closure plan will continue to increase humanitarian needs. In many cases, these needs will arise in even more remote rural locations or urban areas where IDPs and other vulnerable people are often located.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Myanmar Red Cross is committed to providing humanitarian aid to migrants and displaced persons, irrespective of their status, be it stateless, irregular, or regular. This commitment extends to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and individuals crossing international borders in search of refuge or asylum. The Myanmar Red Cross not only focuses on addressing the immediate needs of these populations but also supports host communities, which often share the burden of displacement.

In 2024, Myanmar Red Cross will continue its humanitarian efforts, ensuring access to essential services such as healthcare, basic necessities like food and non-food items, and cash-based interventions. Protection services, including the crucial Restoring Family Links program, will remain a core component of Myanmar Red Cross support, in collaboration with the ICRC. Additionally, the Myanmar Red Cross places significant emphasis on creating safe referral pathways for migrants and IDPs, integrating them with other established referral systems in healthcare and PGI.

The Myanmar Red Cross recognizes the importance of reaching individuals and communities in origin, transit, and destination areas within the country. To achieve this, Myanmar Red Cross leverages its branch-level volunteers and planned local assessments, ensuring a comprehensive approach

to addressing migration and displacement challenges. Myanmar Red Cross will also strengthen its coordination with neighbouring National Societies such as Bangladesh Red Crescent, Laos Red Cross and Thai Red Cross, with the support of the IFRC.

Furthermore, the Myanmar Red Cross is committed to training state and regional leadership within Myanmar in humanitarian diplomacy, enabling them to engage effectively with local authorities, community groups, and humanitarian organizations on issues pertaining to migration and displacement.

The Myanmar Red Cross has formulated a Migration and Displacement policy and strategy aligned with the current [IFRC migration policy and strategy](#). The Myanmar Red Cross is represented in the IFRC global migration leadership group, and will continue to engage in actions aligned with the first Movement Strategy on Migration, scheduled for adoption at the 2024 Red Cross Red Crescent [Council of Delegates](#). Additional efforts will be undertaken to disseminate and train more volunteers and staff in Movement commitments to migrants and displaced people.

The Myanmar Red Cross multi-year objectives include:

- Integration of safe referral pathways for migrants and IDPs with existing pathways in health and PGI
- Establishment and support of at least one [Humanitarian Service Point \(HSP\)](#)
- Effective management of Restoring Family Links (RFL) services for migrants, IDPs, and other people in need, with support from the ICRC
- Durable solutions for voluntary returns in safety and dignity; local integration and resettlement
- Improved information management and implementation of proper and dignified management of the dead and those presumed dead, with support from the ICRC
- Enhanced coordination within the Myanmar Red Cross branch network and with neighbouring National Societies on migration and displacement

- Increased access for volunteers and staff to knowledge sharing and training opportunities in migration and displacement

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Given the increasing needs of migrants, IDPs and people in origin, transit and host communities, the **IFRC** is committed to enhance its support for Myanmar Red Cross overall

work in migration and displacement work. This includes the promotion of durable solutions for voluntary return. A number of participating National Societies are also contributing to Myanmar Red Cross' vital services to migrants and displaced people. These include notably the **Danish Red Cross**, the **Finnish Red Cross**, the **Italian Red Cross**, the **Swedish Red Cross**, the **Singapore Red Cross**, and potentially other Southeast Asia countries.



## Values, power and inclusion

The ongoing polarisation and violence and protracted nature of the crisis in Myanmar creates an array of protection challenges.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Myanmar Red Cross aims to mainstream Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) into all its programmes. The focus of PGI work in the National Society is particularly concentrated in the First Aid and Social Services unit where dedicated PGI staff are situated. The National Society has aligned PGI actions with those related to MHPSS, and when appropriate, integrated them with first aid trainings. Currently, the Myanmar Red Cross has a developing PGI working group, and a multi-year proposal outlining a series of PGI actions. These actions focus on increased training, dissemination, and integration of PGI and related issues such as Protection from Sexual Exploitation (PSEA), safeguarding, child-friendly spaces, among others. In alignment with its work in migration and displacement, the Myanmar Red Cross seeks to actively contribute to anti-trafficking efforts, leveraging its capacities and mandate to address this pressing issue effectively.

A core objective of the Myanmar Red Cross is the development and approval of a robust PSEA policy. The National Society places a strong emphasis on effective dissemination and implementation of this policy, acknowledging the essential support provided by the IFRC in aligning the PSEA policy with concurrent child safeguarding efforts. Myanmar Red Cross is dedicated to finalizing its PSEA policy and comprehensively disseminating PGI principles at all levels. The National Society seeks to rollout of child-friendly spaces within its programs and operations to prioritize the unique needs and vulnerabilities of children. A comprehensive child safeguarding risk analysis will be conducted to strengthen child protection measures.

The expansion of community networks to include youths, women, and diverse groups is paramount, further amplifying

the reach and impact of PGI principles. The Myanmar Red Cross aims to empower its youth members to assume roles as catalysts for change within their communities. The Myanmar Red Cross has a strength in youth projects and the effective use of the Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC) methodology and the Sports for Development programme. These initiatives will leverage past achievements, especially in promoting social inclusion, including gender equality, through youth empowerment. As part of branch development and decentralization activities in 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross identified potential plans for increased youth integration into all spheres of its operations. The Myanmar Red Cross is also firmly committed to promoting disability inclusion, recognizing the significance of enabling the participation and well-being of individuals with disabilities.

The Myanmar Red Cross also aims to mainstream community engagement and accountability (CEA) into its programmes and operations, with recent achievements in its three-year long response to COVID-19 and the actions related to the complex emergency. The National Society will continue to ramp up its training to volunteers and staff in CEA. Ongoing use of feedback mechanisms, including post-distribution monitoring, will be supplemented by actions to foster the participation of the people (to be) reached in decisions regarding planning and implementation.

The Myanmar Red Cross multi-year objectives include:

- Disseminate established PGI tools, procedures and policies (PSEA Policy to be finalized, among others) at all levels
- Empower youth to act as agents of change in their communities
- Integrate child-friendly spaces, run by Myanmar Red Cross trained staff and volunteers, into programmes and operations



- Conduct regular child safeguarding risk analyses
- Actively promote disability inclusion in programmes, operations, and internal institutional functioning
- Enhance its contribution to anti-trafficking messaging and humanitarian support based on capacities and mandate, linked to its work in migration and displacement
- Maintain a permanent and effective feedback mechanism that supports its work with and in communities across the whole country
- Coordinate effectively on PGI-related issues (SGBV, PSEA, child safeguarding, among others) within the Myanmar Red Cross branch network and with external partners
- Increase volunteers and staff access to knowledge sharing and training opportunities in PGI
- Conduct a perception study to determine the most effective way to communicate about the fundamental principles, humanitarian values, and auxiliary status with diverse actors
- Strengthen staff and volunteers understanding and competence in CEA at all levels of the organisation,

ensuring continued mainstreaming of [CEA](#) into programmes and operations

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Along with **the IFRC**, the following participating National Societies—**Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross**—are all supporting Myanmar Red Cross in these objectives. Specific support includes the **Swedish Red Cross** co-leading with the Myanmar Red Cross PGI coordination efforts within the IFRC network. The **Finnish Red Cross** specifically supports the Myanmar Red Cross in integrating disability inclusion into its programs and operations. In support of Myanmar Red Cross' initiatives, **the IFRC** puts a special emphasis on youth, and on providing consistent CEA technical guidance, facilitating the exchange of valuable information, and presenting training opportunities to Myanmar Red Cross' CEA focal point.

## ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

For 2024 and 2025, the Myanmar Red Cross is committed to operationalize a function-based approach to its development, which is based on the systematization of a series of institutional and thematic assessments as well as situational analyses performed by the National Society over the past few years. Through the comprehensive National Society development process initiated in 2023, it has been working on developing a cohesive framework to foster complementarity between the actions of its different components (departments/ units), reinforcing the link between these actions and the achievement of its Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

The Myanmar Red Cross has identified the revision of its core structure (initiated in 2023 and that will continue in 2024) as an underlying initiative influencing all validated priority areas. The other main functions that it sees as framing its development for 2024-2025 are:

- Legal base and humanitarian diplomacy
- Financial sustainability

- People management
- Services management
- Branch development (conceived as a theme intersecting all areas)

The Myanmar Red Cross carried on the self-assessment of the [Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification \(IFRC-OCAC\)](#) in January 2022. The OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of the National Society as a whole, in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The National Society is also committed to the [Preparedness for Effective Response \(PER\)](#) process and is currently at the workplan phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms, and ultimately take necessary actions to improve them.



## Strategic and operational coordination

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### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Within its Strategic Plan, the Myanmar Red Cross emphasizes several key priorities aimed at fortifying its role as a principled humanitarian actor. These priorities serve as a roadmap to improve its engagement with stakeholders and the broader humanitarian sector. Proactive engagement and outreach initiatives will be employed to foster a clear and shared understanding of its unique contributions to humanitarian sector.

The Myanmar Red Cross leads as one of the pilot countries of the IFRC network's New Way of Working (NWoW). The initiative aims at establishing a new model of membership coordination, working over multiple years to instill a thorough change

in the ways the IFRC network works together, and placing the National Society of the country at the centre. Particular attention was given to collective planning to ensure that National Society partners present in the country participate in one multi-year country plan, which will ensure that the resources and expertise of the network in the country are used in a complementary and efficient way. While the piloting phase concluded in 2023, the Myanmar Red Cross will work to maintain the gains of the initiative.

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support strategic, operational, and technical coordination with external actors and within the IFRC network.



## National Society Development

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The Myanmar Red Cross will focus on strengthening branch development, financial sustainability, and people management in the following key areas:

- Consolidating and regularly updating organisation-wide tracking systems for monitoring branch development processes
- Enhancing branch leaders' capacity to run well-structured branches that are autonomous in the delivery of essential services in conformity with the National Society's standards
- Developing relevant guidelines for resource mobilisation procedures
- Strengthening Myanmar Red Cross' income generation capacity at the branch level, with a specific focus on standardizing and scaling up commercial first aid at the State/Region level
- Revising human resources recruitment and retention plans and procedures
- Registering Myanmar Red Cross volunteers in a unified digital system with tracking of capacities and activities

- Promoting a consolidated platform, strategy, and plans for meaningful youth engagement at decision-making levels throughout Myanmar Red Cross
- Reinforcing and institutionalizing Myanmar Red Cross' presence in schools through the establishment of active Red Cross School Clubs

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

National Society development is and will remain at the core of the IFRC support. In 2021 and 2022, this included support for leadership development, resource mobilization (with a grant to increase its financial sustainability), branch development capacity through the Emergency Appeal operation, and [Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification \(OCAC\)](#).

The **Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross** and **Swedish Red cross**, along with the IFRC, are actively supporting the Myanmar Red Cross in achieving these objectives.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Myanmar Red Cross Law (2015) provides the legal status for its humanitarian activities and enshrines its auxiliary role to public authorities in the humanitarian field. In the polarized context in country, the Myanmar Red Cross recognizes the importance of providing information to diverse actors on its mandate and auxiliary role, while also demonstrating its principled humanitarian actions. The broad understanding of its auxiliary role has a direct impact on communities' acceptance of its volunteers, staff and leadership, as well as their safety and security. With an aim to gather information on the varied perceptions of the National Society within the country and with diverse stakeholders, it has launched a process to conduct a perception study. This study's findings will enable the Myanmar Red Cross Society to determine what messaging might need adjustment and how this information can best be transmitted to diverse actors.

Recognizing the significance of cultivating a strong and impactful image among key external audiences, the Myanmar Red Cross will leverage a diverse range of communication channels. This multipronged approach will effectively convey its humanitarian efforts and the positive impact it imparts to communities in need. In 2024 and beyond, ongoing actions will continue and be expanded to strengthen staff and leadership's communication skills, as well as operational communication and capitalizing on its social media presence.

Actions in this area include technical support for leadership, staff and volunteers to advocate for the needed humanitarian space to conduct its principled humanitarian actions whether

that be in emergency response, long-term programming or emerging humanitarian topics (potential repatriation, camp closures), as well as on the Fundamental Principles that guide the Myanmar Red Cross as an independent, impartial and neutral humanitarian institution.

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

**The IFRC** plays an important role by engaging in humanitarian diplomacy with a range of stakeholders in Myanmar. Moreover, the IFRC supports the National Society in developing public messaging to reinforce the importance of the fundamental principles, the auxiliary role of the Myanmar Red Cross and the role of the IFRC network. This work is essential in countering the politicization of humanitarian action and misperceptions that can affect community acceptance of the National Society as well as the safety of Red Cross Red Crescent personnel.

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society in developing its capacity and engaging in advocacy with local and national authorities. Particular focus will be placed on humanitarian access to respond to the needs of internally displaced people, migrants, and returnees. The IFRC will also aim to extend these advocacy efforts regionally and globally while also highlighting elements of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Myanmar.

The IFRC will also continue to provide technical guidance and training opportunities in communication. IFRC network partners will continue to work together to create shared proactive and reactive communication, as needed.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

A priority focus of the Myanmar Red Cross revolves around strengthening safeguarding, as part of its PGI efforts (see under Values, Power and Inclusion).

The Myanmar Red Cross also puts emphasis on improving its financial management system, grounded in due diligence and assessment processes at the headquarters and branch levels. It works to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of internal controls, including policies, manuals, and processes, and

increase the efficiency, reliability, and relevance of financial reporting and departmental structure.

The Myanmar Red Cross planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) unit, in collaboration with decentralized PMER staff in different departments, will lead on the creation of a standardized reporting template. Assisted by the Information Management department, Myanmar Red Cross aims to establish and implement a unified monitoring system to enhance institutional accountability. Additionally, the PMER unit will continue to lead on evaluations, lessons learned and review exercises, as well as the follow-up required.

The National Society also seeks to strengthen the capacity of its staff and volunteers in procurement, supply chain and warehouse management.

As part of the implementation of its three-year digital transformation plan, the Myanmar Red Cross plans to:

- Equip its headquarters and 17 state and regional branches with a modernized IT infrastructure that enables seamless access to information resources
- Reinforce the knowledge and competencies of staff and volunteers in information technology and information management

- Develop an efficient digital system for procurement, supply chain, and warehouse management (IMS Module 3).

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **Australian Red Cross**, **German Red Cross**, and **Danish Red Cross**, among other participating National Societies are actively supporting Myanmar Red Cross in achieving these objectives, alongside the **IFRC**.

## THE IFRC NETWORK

### The IFRC

The IFRC in Myanmar operates from a 22-person office in the Myanmar Red Cross building in Yangon, with a sub-delegation in Sittwe, Rakhine state. The IFRC channels additional technical guidance through its regional office for Asia-Pacific in Kuala Lumpur, which supports 38 National Societies in the region, and the headquarters in Geneva.

IFRC's primary focus is on National Society development for the Myanmar Red Cross. The IFRC is providing technical support for a security management system in collaboration with the ICRC, aiming to enhance the safety of volunteers and staff at both headquarters and state/region branches.

Ongoing technical services from the IFRC country delegation include finance, administration and fleet support. The IFRC serves as a key resource for the Myanmar Red Cross and other IFRC network members, offering expertise in financial and banking matters, procurement and logistics, human resources, event planning, travel support for international events, and maintaining IFRC standards for fleet management.

In recent years the IFRC supported the Myanmar Red Cross through a number of Emergency Appeals and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) operations in relation to complex emergency, floods, landslides, cyclones, and a mine collapse. This includes the ongoing Cyclone Mocha emergency operation.



5th July 2023, Myanmar Red Cross Society providing humanitarian assistance to people affected by Cyclone Mocha (Photo: Myanmar Red Cross)



## 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; co-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, development assistance, and of efforts to reinforce the role of National Societies in their respective countries.

The IFRC, along with in-country and remote participating National Societies, will maintain regular coordination meetings to facilitate discussions and information sharing, aiming to improve and streamline support to the Myanmar Red Cross. In 2022, with guidance from the IFRC and support from participating National Societies, the Myanmar Red Cross initiated a shared leadership approach in certain sub-sectors of humanitarian action. Complementary to the New Way of Working initiative, IFRC network partners will continue to develop and enhance the understanding and implementation of what shared leadership looks like in practice, including the roles, responsibilities and tools required.

The Myanmar Red Cross partners with a number of sister National Societies, which include:

The **American Red Cross** has a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Myanmar Red Cross and implements bilaterally through the Myanmar Red Cross or channels funding through the IFRC using a multilateral approach for emergency responses.

The **Australian Red Cross** has a long partnership with Myanmar Red Cross, which includes support to National Society development and Financial Sustainability, disaster and epidemic preparedness, mainstreaming of PGI, and strategic communications.

The **British Red Cross**, for the past 10 years, has supported Myanmar Red Cross community resilience programme in Rakhine state. This support enabled Myanmar Red Cross to implement actions in livelihoods, cash and voucher assistance, first aid and disaster risk reduction. The British Red Cross plans to conduct an evaluation of the programme in 2024.

The **Canadian Red Cross Society** has supported on disaster management, particularly for the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) approach, support for the national emergency operations centre, standard operating procedures, information management and policy development.

The **Red Cross Society of China** was a central partner to the Myanmar Red Cross during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a neighbouring National Society, the Myanmar Red Cross and IFRC seek to continue this coordination.

The **Hong Kong branch of the Red Cross Society of China** has provided ongoing support to the Myanmar Red Cross for its emergency response operations through the IFRC. Recent support is provided for the ongoing IFRC Emergency Appeals for the responses to the Complex Emergency and Cyclone Mocha.

The **Danish Red Cross** has been a partner of Myanmar Red Cross since 1998, with the opening of a country office in 2010. Danish Red Cross support has concentrated mainly in health (with projects in Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing, Chin and Shan), disaster risk reduction and livelihoods (mainly in Kachin). Most recently Danish Red Cross has been supporting Myanmar Red Cross with COVID-19 health care support and during the Complex Emergency operation since February 2021.

The **Finnish Red Cross** has nearly two decades of cooperation with Myanmar Red Cross, which has intensified significantly in the past few years with the establishment of in-country delegates and a country office. In addition, Finnish Red Cross has historical multilateral partnerships with IFRC, including through supporting staff on loan and emergency appeals, as well as with the ICRC. Finnish Red Cross recently has partnerships in a consortium with other participating National Societies that support Myanmar.

The **German Red Cross** works bilaterally with Myanmar Red Cross. Since December 2018, German Red Cross has a permanent office in Myanmar. German Red Cross has identified thematic areas of work aligned with technical and sectorial Myanmar Red Cross priorities: disaster risk management; first aid; cash and voucher assistance; livelihoods; urban disaster risk reduction; [Forecast-based Actions](#) (FbA) and Anticipation; conflict-sensitive contexts; and National Society development. These are framed within the Myanmar Red Cross Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and aligned with German Red Cross and back-donor priorities/ strategies.

The **Italian Red Cross**, through its regional office for Asia, provides multilateral support via the IFRC currently focused on Myanmar Red Cross actions to respond to the needs of migrants and displaced people, as well as strengthening its capacities to engage in this principled humanitarian action.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society** has a long history of long-term development cooperation with the Myanmar Red Cross. It supports the Myanmar Red Cross Society in first aid and ambulance services. Additionally, Japanese Red Cross delegates have been deployed for direct support to the Myanmar Red Cross.

The **Republic of Korea National Red Cross** is a long-time partner of the Myanmar Red Cross. It supported Myanmar Red Cross response actions to the 2008 Cyclone Nargis and a multi-year WASH project (2016-2018). Additionally, it provided financial and in-kind contributions to the Myanmar Red Cross'

COVID-19 response and the largest financial contributions to the IFRC Emergency Appeal for the Complex Emergency. As one of its priority countries, The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, will continue the partnership with the Myanmar Red Cross while ensuring that this is aligned to the Myanmar Red Cross Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and its priorities to respond to humanitarian needs in the country.

The **Monaco Red Cross** is a regular supporter to Myanmar Red Cross emergency response operations. In the recent past, Monaco Red Cross has supported the IFRC Emergency Appeal operations for the complex emergency and the current Cyclone Mocha.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supports Myanmar Red Cross emergency response operations, including past deployment of human resources. Recently this has included support for the IFRC Emergency Appeal for the complex emergency and currently for the Cyclone Mocha operation, including deployment of information management staff supporting the shelter and camp management cluster in Myanmar in 2023. The Netherlands Red Cross has Myanmar as one of its priority countries with interest to continue support to the Myanmar Red Cross in emergency preparedness and response and climate change initiatives.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** focus on health programmes started in 2013 through IFRC. Bilateral support to Myanmar Red Cross began with its partnership agreement in 2019 with a focus on community health activities, support for primary health care centres, referrals and emergency response. Norwegian Red Cross and Myanmar Red Cross have a three-year agreement to provide support to the National Society actions in Rakhine (Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Sittwe), and in North Shan (Lashio, Tangyan and Namshan) with a focus on increasing community and mobile health activities, recruitment and rehabilitation of primary health centres and provision of ambulance/referral services.

The **New Zealand Red Cross** has a longstanding relationship with Myanmar Red Cross, particularly in supporting logistics capacity development. The New Zealand Red Cross is reviewing its operating model (Re-imagining 2030) to determine its future international engagement with sister National Societies.

The **Qatar Red Crescent** has supported the Myanmar Red Cross almost ten years between 2012 to 2021 for the areas of shelter, WASH and health, including support for health centres (mobile clinics and health posts) in Rakhine state. With the

IFRC, Qatar Red Crescent also supported a Myanmar Red Cross livelihoods programme. Qatar Red Crescent remains interested in supporting Myanmar Red Cross principled humanitarian actions.

The **Singapore Red Cross Society** is a close partner National Society from the Southeast Asian sub-region. Bilateral support to the Myanmar Red Cross has included financial resources and in-kind goods for the Myanmar Red Cross response to the complex emergency. This vital support enabled Myanmar Red Cross to provide first aid, ambulance service and covered overhead costs. The Singapore Red Cross regularly convenes Southeast Asian National Societies to events to strengthen the IFRC network. This has included emphasis on strengthening the capacities of women humanitarians. Myanmar Red Cross participated, at the invitation of the Singapore Red Cross, in the first Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Women Conference in August 2023.





































The **Swedish Red Cross** has been working with Myanmar Red Cross in various sectors, mainly community-based health and WASH projects. Swedish Red Cross is leading technical support to Myanmar Red Cross in the sector of WASH, closely coordinating with other Movement partners and linking Myanmar Red Cross to the Myanmar WASH cluster and other actors in the sector. Additionally, Swedish Red Cross supports Myanmar Red Cross to mainstream PGI, integrate Green Response and Volunteering in Conflicts and Emergency (ViCE).

The **Swiss Red Cross** is a supporter of Myanmar Red Cross' emergency response operations. The Swiss Red Cross currently supports the IFRC Emergency Appeal that supports Myanmar Red Cross Cyclone Mocha response operation.

The **Thai Red Cross Society** is a close partner National Society to the Myanmar Red Cross with regular coordination and mutual support to address shared humanitarian issues, such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing displacement and migration to, through and return from Thailand.

The **Turkish Red Crescent** has been a partner to the Myanmar Red Cross since 2005 and the establishment of an in-country delegation in Myanmar in 2012 until 2021. The Turkish Red Crescent aims to restart its support for the Myanmar Red Cross to build on the historic humanitarian aid activities such as training personnel, WASH, renovating infrastructure, among others.

## Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
British Red Cross							
Danish Red Cross	1.4M						
Finnish Red Cross	480,000						
German Red Cross	1.5M						
New Zealand Red Cross							
Norwegian Red Cross	2.4M						
Singapore Red Cross							
Swedish Red Cross	1.3M						
Thai Red Cross Society							

Total Funding requirement

**7M**

## Movement coordination

Movement coordination in Myanmar involves a tripartite approach between the Myanmar Red Cross, IFRC and ICRC at strategic, operational and technical levels. The Myanmar Red Cross convenes regular strategic-level tripartite coordination meetings and monthly Movement coordination meetings for information sharing among the National Society and in-country partners from IFRC, other National Societies and ICRC. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

At the technical level, the Myanmar Red Cross convenes security cell and tripartite security working group meetings to discuss the current context and the impact on the Movement's humanitarian action, particularly the safety and security of Myanmar Red Cross volunteers and staff. Technical working groups that met in 2023 include the organizational development, disaster risk management, health and PGI. In 2024, the Myanmar Red Cross considers launching a technical working group for migration and displacement.

In September 2023, five members of the Myanmar Red Cross Executive Committee and the Deputy Secretary General participated in the IFRC-ICRC Movement Induction Course in Malaysia to strengthen leadership and reinforce the fundamental principles of the Movement in a polarized context such as Myanmar.

[In Myanmar, the ICRC](#) provides humanitarian assistance to people affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence. ICRC has been present in Myanmar for over 30 years, including in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine states. Its response is inclusive of emergency aid as well as long-term assistance. ICRC improves access to clean water, health-care facilities and better living conditions, promotes international humanitarian law and spreads education about risks related to landmines. It seeks to visit places of detention with an aim to secure better living conditions for all detainees, restore communication between them and their loved ones, and reunite families. Many of ICRC's programmes are jointly carried out with the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

## Coordination with other actors

According to the Myanmar Red Cross Law (2015), the Ministry of Health (MoH) serves as the line ministry of the National Society. The Myanmar Red Cross collaborates with and receives resources from various United Nations agencies, including:

- United Nations Fund for Population (UNFP) for assistance in mobile sexual and reproductive health care in Northern Shan and Yangon
  - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for a reintegration support project in Kayin State and Tanintharyi Region for returnees, IDPs and host communities
  - United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) for three projects, focusing on community-based TB care in Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyarwady, Magway and Southern Shan; community-based malaria prevention in Southern Shan; and COVID-19 support.
  - World Food Programme (WFP) for rice distribution
  - World Health Organization (WHO) for patient referral service in Yangon Region.
- 

The IFRC is a standing invitee in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), while the Myanmar Red Cross is a national member of the HCT. In the OCHA-organized working groups, Myanmar Red Cross co-chairs the emergency response preparedness working group and actively contributes to developing a cash preparedness and readiness package, including risk assessments and information sharing.

As part of the IFRC support for the Cyclone Mocha response and as a lead of the [global Shelter Cluster](#) in disasters, the IFRC deployed three rapid response members, the Deputy Shelter Cluster Coordinator and two rotations of the IM Coordinator for the North West. These efforts involved close collaboration with the existing UNHCR coordination team in the Shelter/ NFI/ CCCM Cluster, enhancing the Red Cross profile in strategic coordination among humanitarian actors.

Myanmar Red Cross maintains operational coordination and has received material support from the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre). In the third quarter of 2023, the AHA Centre provided NFIs to Myanmar Red Cross to distribute in cyclone-affected areas.





## **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.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- [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](#)

This plan reflects the priorities of the National Society, its partner National Societies, and the IFRC Secretariat for 2024 and subsequent years. It is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

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