

**CONTRIBUTE TO SAVING LIVES AND BUILDING RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS AND CRISES**

**Core Area 1: DISASTER MANAGMENT**

Cambodian Red Cross builds the capacity of communities in disaster risk management and reduction, and strengths preparedness for effective responses to disasters. We are well recognized by the Royal Government and other organizations for our active role in disaster management, for widely sharing accurate information on vulnerability to disaster, and for non-discrimination in relief assistance.

Our two disaster management strategic objectives from the Strategy 2003-2010 framework - disaster preparedness and reduction of disaster impact, and relief assistance to victims of disasters and vulnerable families - have been well met. These objectives were defined in our 2002-2005 development plans, and upgraded in the 2005-2007 development plans.

Our strategic plan for disaster management for 2008-2012 was developed based on the recommendations of the 2007 mid-term review of the Strategy 2003-2010 implementation. This plan integrates activities including branch development, human resource development, advocacy, capacity building and cross cutting issues such as Red Cross Volunteers (RCV), Red Cross Youth (RCY) and gender.

Aligned to the IFRC Strategy 2020, the Rectangular Strategy Phase II of the Royal Government of Cambodia, and the need to be prepared and respond to current climate change challenges, Strategy 2011-2020 identifies the following expected results in disaster management:

## 1- We respond to all major emergencies and disasters effectively, efficiently, timely and compassionately through a strong and capable network of branches, sub-branches, groups and well-managed volunteers and youth.

## We establish and strengthen disaster management mechanisms at all levels from headquarters to communities in terms of quantity and quality.

## We train volunteers, youth, sub-branch staff and branch focal points, and regularly refresh their specific skills in vulnerability assessment, first aid, disaster preparedness, and risk reduction and response. We strengthen the resilience of households and communities in preparation for and after disasters and crises.

## We promote preparedness, prevention and mitigation in every community to cope with disasters and emergencies.

## We reduce the number of road accidents.

To achieve these results we will continue to strengthen cooperation with our partners including the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), Partner National Societies (PNS), the IFRC Regional Disaster Management Unit (RDMU), the National Committee for Road Safety Promotion and the private sector. We will support branch and sub-branch staff, RCV and local communities to develop skills and techniques to understand the needs of vulnerable people and those affected by local disasters and respond quickly and effectively to them.

Disaster Management covers the four sectors detailed below:

**1. Disaster Risk Reduction**

Disaster Risk Reduction incorporates two areas:

**1.1 Disaster Preparedness for Response**

Disaster preparedness for responseincludes setting up systems and strengthening the capacity of branches and sub-branches to assess vulnerability, identify disaster risk, and collect and manage data on vulnerable people. It also involves developing information flow mechanisms, advanced guidelines, policies, norms of operations and codes of conduct.

**Our key actions will include:**

* National headquarters reviewing, revising and updating policies, guidelines, standards of operations for disaster preparedness and response, and minimum standards for assistance. This process will seek input from branch and sub-branch staff and relevant actors, particularly RCVs and RCY. These documents will then be disseminated to branches and sub-branches to ensure that disaster management policies and guidelines are applied.
* National headquarters orienting and providing technical support to branches as required to implement branch development plans.
* Branches providing orientation to sub-branches and developing human resource capacity, especially project management and capacity building for RCVs and RCY.
* Establishing and strengthening our disaster response structure by linking disaster response teams at headquarters, branch, sub-branch and community level to share experiences and capacity.
* Improving communication mechanisms, information systems and reporting analysis on disaster management.

**1.2 Disaster Preparedness**

Disaster risk reduction focuses on building the resilience of communities by integrating disaster plans with development plans. We work to build branch, sub-branch and community capacity in early information warning systems, promote climate change adaptation strategies and seek advocacy support from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to include the disaster program and disaster risk awareness in the national education curriculum.

**Our key actions will include:**

* National headquarters raising awareness through distributing climate change adaptation key messages and relevant measures to people, aligned with the global slogan “Our World, Your Move”.
* Branches and sub-branches taking responsibility for setting up disaster risk reduction mechanisms in their provincial territories by advocating to provincial and sub-provincial authorities on the importance of their common interests.
* Branch and sub-branch focusing on community-based disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction in the most vulnerable villages (communes) before expanding to others.
* National headquarters and branches discussing, establishing and reviewing early warning system mechanisms, focusing on community capacity building.
* Reviewing and updating the Disaster Management Department Strategic Plan 2008-2012 to ensure that it aligns with the CRC Strategy 2011-2020 and policy framework, as well as with the National Committee for Disaster Management Strategy.
* Continuing to advocate to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to integrate disaster preparedness programs and disaster risk reduction awareness raising into the national education curriculum.
* Promoting and strengthening the capacity of the most vulnerable families, building resilience to hazards such as floods and storms.

**2. Disaster Response**

We take action to immediately respond in the event of a disaster, offering relief to affected people no matter where or when it is needed. Our effectiveness is dependent on the competence of branches and sub-branches to quickly mobilize resources, logistics and transportation.

**Our key actions will include:**

* National headquarters drawing on access to the government, stakeholders, partners and charitable people to support the operation of disaster response to large-scale emergencies that are beyond the response capacity of branches.
* National headquarters developing a specialized team to provide training to branch focal points, and by extension to sub-branches, RCVs and RCY.
* Ensuring branches and sub-branches can respond immediately to disasters by drawing on support from local authorities and local communities for emergency service assistance, with support from national headquarters if required. Support may include information collection on damage, needs assessments, beneficiary registration, relief management, logistics, communications tools and systems, and monitoring and evaluation.
* Branches and sub-branches improving human resource preparation for disaster response through appropriate specialized training from the disaster response team, with capacity-building assistance from national headquarters.
* Branches and sub-branches initiating emergency assessment training including needs assessment, with technical support from national headquarters or other partners.

**1.3 Disaster Relief and Recovery**

Disaster relief and recoveryfocuses on providing technical assistance to branches, sub-branches and disaster-prone communities by offering physical and psychological support such as shelter, safe water, hygiene, health and short-term food production, and advocating for supports from relevant institutions.

**Our key actions will include:**

* Enhancing social recovery and reducing risk for vulnerable people, making communities safer through providing human vulnerability and capability assessment (HVCA), shelter, water and sanitation, and short-term food production assistance.
* Providing physical and psychological support in coordination with relevant CRC departments, particularly the health department, in order to improve physical and mental health.
* Promoting linkages between disaster emergency response and recovery.

**1.4 Road Safety Promotion**

We are responding the new human disaster of road fatalities in Cambodia by promoting road safety through four priorities areas:

* Encouraging people to wear helmets and safety belts when driving a vehicle.
* Conducting road safety campaigns in schools through RCY activity.
* Educate and disseminate road safety, traffic law to community.
* Strengthening the capacity of advocacy support and establishing road safety partnerships.