

# Thai Red Cross Society

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# **Key Information**

#### **Branch Offices**

76 branches with 240 sub-branches

#### **Date Established**

Established: 26 April 1893 Officially recognised by ICRC: 27 May 1920 Accepted as a member of IFRC: 08 April 1921

#### Funding

Income: 20,686,798,276.22 THB Expenditure: 15,416,378,567.93 THB

# **IFRC Country Delegation?**

No

# Key Persons

President: H.M. Queen SIRIKIT Executive Vice-President: H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Secretary General: Mr. Phan WANNAMETHEE

# Legal Status

The Thai Red Cross Society is registered as a juristic person. Thai Red Cross Society Act (5th revision) of 2008 "A juristic entity undertaking humanitarian charitable activities in keeping with the Fundamental Principles of Red Cross, the Thai Red Cross Society is thus eligible for state budget support" (Article 3)"

# People Reached

4,837,740

#### Volunteers

1,195, 222 volunteers (of which 70,539 are youth, 152,660 volunteers from Provincial Red Cross Chapters, 11,851 volunteers from Red Cross Volunteers Bureau, 960,172 registered volunteers in data based)

#### **Major Partners**

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners:



# Background

The Thai Red Cross Society was established as the Red Unalom Society in 1893, in the reign of King Chulalongkorn, to provide relief to the victims of the territorial conflicts along the borders of Thailand and French Indochina. It was later renamed the Thai Red Cross Society and became a member of the International Federation in 1921.

The Thai Red Cross Society endeavors to alleviate human suffering, promote international humanitarian law, and provide health services to the most vulnerable among children, women and the aged in four areas – medical and health-care services, disaster preparedness and response, blood transfusion services and social welfare and quality of life promotion.





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# **Programme Overview**

**Blood:** The Thai Red Cross Society National Blood Centre has been entrusted by the Thai Government to provide adequate and safe blood supplies to patients nationwide. Blood donations are voluntary and unpaid. Every donated blood unit is tested against World Health Organization (WHO) standards to ensure that only safe and healthy blood is supplied.

**Disaster preparedness and relief:** The Thai Red Cross Society preparations for emergencies include stockpiling essential relief goods and ensuring flat bottom boats, vehicles and telecommunications equipment are available. The Thai Red Cross Society also provides knowledge and technical skills training programmes and has set up a Disaster Operations Centre to be used as a source of information and coordination in case of disasters and emergencies. Response and rehabilitation programmes include relief and health care.

**Health:** The Thai Red Cross Society runs a sophisticated medical programme with its modern 1,346-bed Chulalongkorn Hospital and a 452-bed Queen Sawang Wattana Memorial Hospital in Chonburi province. It provides free medical services for poor patients and has 12 Red Cross health stations in Bangkok and all regions of country.

**HIV/AIDS:** The AIDS Research Center of the Thai Red Cross has a leading role in Thailand and the region with regard to prevention, counseling, treatment and research on HIV/AIDS. Thai Red Cross Society also runs the 'Anonymous Clinic' for HIV testing and advice and provides support to people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Social services:** Home care for the elderly and a programme for care for patients recovering from strokes have been initiated to meet the needs of an ageing population. The Thai Red Cross Children's Home was founded to provide care and to find appropriate families for children abandoned by their parents after birth in the Thai Red Cross Society hospitals. The Thai Red Cross also has organs, eyes and tissue donation services, and produces vaccines and anti snake serum.

**Youth:** The Youth Bureau engages in development programmes in schools and among young people to promote a sense of social responsibility. The Youth Bureau also works to promote International Humanitarian Law.

# **Recent Disasters**

Droughts, floods, tropical storms and forest fires pose the greatest hazard risk to Thailand. Recent significant disasters include:

- Severe floods (Jul. 2011-January 2012)
- Typhoon Mekkahla (Sep-Oct 2008)
- Indian Ocean Tsunami (December 2004)

# **Disaster Law**

In November 2014, Thai Red Cross held a workshop on legal preparedness for international disaster response (IDRL) in Bangkok. The workshop was co-hosted with IFRC and the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) and brought together over 60 participants from government, civil society, the United Nations, academia and the humanitarian/development community. In line with the recommendations from the workshop, DDPM are currently developing a guideline on international cooperation using Red Cross Red Crescent tools such as the IDRL Guidelines and Model Act on International Disaster Assistance.



#### For further information about the Thai Red Cross Society

#### **Headquarters Address & Contact Details**

1871 Terdprakiat Bld., Henry Dunant Rd., Patumwan, Bangkok 10330 Tel: 0-2256-4038, 0-2256-4048, Fax: 0-2255-3064 Email: intertrc@redcross.or.th

#### **Online Profiles**

Website http://www.redcross.or.th Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ThaiRedCross Twitter https://twitter.com/ThaiRedCross YouTube http://www.youtube.com/user/thethairedcross Flickr https://www.flickr.com/photos/thairedcross

#### **Recent Appeals**

A list of all appeals the Thai Red Cross Society has submitted is available on the IFRC website here: http:// www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals/?ac =&at=0&c=&co=SP351TH&dt=1&f=&re=&t=&ti=&zo=

