

snapshot

Philippine Red Cross

May 2017

Key Information

Branch Offices

With a total of 86 chapters and 16 sub-chapters (totalling 103 chapters nationwide) the Philippine Red Cross is represented across all provinces

Date Established

Formed and recognised by the ICRC and IFRC in 1947.

Funding

Philippine Red Cross, through its various fund campaign programs and special events, relies on public and private individual and corporate support to sustain its humanitarian efforts.

IFRC Country Office

Yes

Key Persons

Chairman and CEO: Mr. Richard GORDON

Secretary General: Atty. Oscar Palabyab

Legal Status

The consolidation of the Senate Bill 3285 and House Bill 6509 was signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and is now known as Republic Act No. 10072 or The Philippine Red Cross Act of 2009, which was authored by Chairman Richard Gordon. The Act reaffirms the country's "conformity with the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their additional protocols, and the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement," as well as a confirmation of Philippine Red Cross' stand as a "voluntary, independent and autonomous non-governmental society auxiliary to the authorities of the Republic of the Philippines in the humanitarian field."

Major Partner

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Partners: German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, China Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross

Volunteers

249,127 active volunteers as of 31 March 2017, composed of 143 volunteers from Red Cross, Red Cross Youth, Red Cross Action Team (RCAT), Red Cross Youth (RCY), and First Aiders.



Background

Born officially in 1947, the Philippine Red Cross serves as an auxiliary to the public authorities to provide relief, health and welfare assistance to the most vulnerable people in the country. The National Society adopts a holistic approach to its humanitarian work and offers a wider array of services from preventive medicine to therapeutic counseling, to youth leadership.

The National Society works in partnership with non-governmental agencies and with private groups to achieve effective networking and implementation of its services.

Launched in 2009, its ambitious volunteer programme, 'Red Cross 143', aims to train 1.8 million volunteers nationwide in community-based disaster preparedness and response, as well as in first aid.

Programme Overview

Blood: The programme promotes voluntary blood donation of safe and healthy blood. It maintains the Philippines' Registry of Rare Blood Types.

Disaster management and relief services: The Philippine Red Cross' disaster preparedness programmes and emergency relief assistance. Rehabilitation programmes are conducted depending on the extent of the disaster and donations received.



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
www.ifrc.org Saving lives, changing minds.

Dissemination: International Humanitarian Law (IHL), the Fundamental Principles, and correct use of the Red Cross emblem are being actively disseminated. A National IHL Committee was created recently, headed by the Philippine Red Cross, with key government agencies and NGOs as members. The National Society is at the fore-front in drafting a domestic legislation on Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law.

Health: The community health and nursing service conducts training on disaster and home nursing, primary health care programmes, and the health action pro-gramme for street children.

Safety services: The Philippine Red Cross conducts safe-ty skills courses with communities, including first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), swimming, water safety and life saving. Trained volunteers are also on call to respond to disasters or emergencies.

Social services: The Philippine Red Cross helps those who are psychologically traumatized by disasters or other crises, facilitates the tracing of missing persons, and provides welfare assistance to the disabled and other vulnerable groups. It operates two centers for Women in Crisis.

Youth: Leadership training is provided for Red Cross youth members and they are involved in all services. Focus programmes include HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention Education.

Recent Disasters

Surrounded by bodies of water, and located along the Pacific Ocean's "Ring of Fire", the Philippine Archipelago is among the world's most disaster-prone areas. The country of over 7,000 islands is frequently affected by typhoons, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The country is also impacted by ongoing armed conflict.

Recent disasters include:

- Surigao Earthquake (February 2017)
- Typhoon Nock-Ten (December 2016)
- Typhoon Haima (September 2016)
- Typhoons and Floods (December 2015)
- Typhoon Koppu (October 2015)
- Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) (November 2013)
- Bohol Earthquake (October 2013)
- Typhoon Bopha (Pablo) (December 2012)
- Pantukan landslide (January 2012)

Disaster Law

The Philippines has a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management law, adopted in 2010. Recently, the National Society and IFRC have been engaged in a review of this law, and the updated version now includes a chapter on international assistance, based on the IDRL guidelines and Red Cross Red Crescent advocacy efforts. It is hoped that the revised law will be adopted in 2016.

In 2016 and beyond, Philippine Red Cross and IFRC will be undertaking capacity building and legislative advocacy initiatives, building upon the disaster law work already done in the Philippines (including a high-level workshop and operational deployments to provide support on IDRL issues and regulatory barriers to emergency shelter post Typhoon Bopha and Typhoon Haiyan).



For further information about the Philippine Red Cross:

Headquarters Address & Contact Details

Philippine Red Cross Tower, 37 EDSA corner Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550

Truckline: +63 2 790 2300

Tel: (63) (2) 527 0000, 527 0856/527 0866,

Donation & Fundraising enquiries Tel: +63 (2) 527 0000 ext. 114

Fax: (63) (2) 527 0857/525 5787

e-mails

General Enquiries/Press & Media: communication@redcross.org.ph

Donation and Fundraising Enquiries:

fundgeneration@redcross.org.ph

Website and Digital Media Enquiries: newmedia@redcross.org.ph

Online Profiles

Website: www.redcross.org.ph

Facebook: www.facebook.com/phredcross

Twitter: www.twitter.com/philredcross (518K+ followers)

Instagram: www.instagram.com/philredcross

Google +: plus.google.com/+philippineredcross/about

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/company/1089054

Recent Appeals

A list of all appeals the Philippine Red Cross has submitted is available on the IFRC website here: www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals

Follow us:

