



Red Cross and Red Crescent Contributions to AMCDRR 2018

Asian Ministerial Conference
on Disaster Risk Reduction
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 3 – 6 July 2018

How we work

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Saving lives, changing minds.



Strategy 2020 voices the collective determination of the IFRC to move forward in tackling the major challenges that confront humanity in the next decade. Informed by the needs and vulnerabilities of the diverse communities with whom we work, as well as the basic rights and freedoms to which all are entitled, this strategy seeks to benefit all who look to Red Cross Red Crescent to help to build a more humane, dignified, and peaceful world.

Over the next ten years, the collective focus of the IFRC will be on achieving the following strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises
 2. Enable healthy and safe living
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace
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Summary

From 3 to 6 July 2018, the Mongolian Government hosted the 8th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), which is held every two years in the Asia Pacific region. AMCDRR is co-organised with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). The Ministerial Conference aimed to accelerate efforts in the region to reduce and prevent disaster losses through the implementation of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*. The host country, its nomadic herders and the extreme winter weather condition, Dzud, unique to Mongolia, were featured throughout the conference. [UNISDR article [link](#)]

Over 40 Governments, and approximately 25 Delegations and 9 Stakeholder Groups delivered their [Statements](#) at the 2018 AMCDRR. On 6 July 2018, the [Ulaanbaatar Declaration](#) was adopted, and an Action Plan 2018-2020 was agreed upon, in order to accelerate the implementation of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* in Asia Pacific.

For the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC), our Statement of Action is an important testimony of our commitment to disaster risk reduction (DRR). It also represents a formal commitment of how we will support the implementation of the Asia Regional Plan and its corresponding [Action Plan 2018-2020](#). The [Ulaanbaatar Declaration](#) of 6 July 2018 calls on the stakeholder groups to deliver on their voluntary commitments and periodically report on the progress of implementation against the commitments made.

The RCRC Statement of Action refers to ‘scaling up evidence-based climate-smart DRR programmes to have greater impact, through collective approaches and partnerships’. In addition, 15 specific commitments have been made under the four Sendai priority areas. Updates on the progress will be expected to be reported through the ISDR-Asia Partnership (IAP) Forum held twice a year.

The success of AMCDRR 2018 is due to several factors, including the ambition and commitment of the host government, Mongolia, on disaster risk reduction (DRR). The inclusive environment created for the stakeholder groups was also remarkable, this included the engagement and support from the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Stakeholder Group headed by the Mongolian Red Cross Society (MRCS) and their 250 strong volunteer network who played a critical role in the smooth running of the conference and ensuring strong visibility and profile for the Red Cross and Red Crescent throughout the event.

The RCRC played a significant role both in the lead up to the 2018 AMCDRR as well as during the conference itself, in terms of support through the drafting committee and organizing teams of several technical sessions and thematic events. This ensured that RCRC priorities and influence was well profiled and included throughout the Conference and in the outcome documents. The RCRC Engagement over the course of the conference is well captured in this [video](#) prepared by Mongolian Red Cross Society.



Key outcomes of AMCDRR 2018

A. Official Outcome Documents

The [Ulaanbaatar Declaration](#) and an [Action Plan 2018-2020](#) were agreed upon at the close of the Conference. These outcome documents stress the need to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia to reduce disaster losses. In particular, the Declaration calls for greater accountability for disaster losses in Asia, the world's most disaster-prone region.

The Action Plan provides a roadmap for collective commitments and actions for the coming two years, building on the previous Action Plan agreed upon at the AMCDRR 2016 in New Delhi. It takes into account the progress realized in the achievement of the milestones and recommends actions to advance the Asia Regional Plan for the implementation of the Sendai Framework. For the next two years the Action Plan will focus on realisation of target E of the Sendai Framework, development of national and local DRR strategies.

Other key highlights of the 2018 – 2020 Action Plan include:

- **Understanding Disaster Risk** – focus on building capacity to collect and analyse disaster risk data and scale up advocacy and awareness on DRR including through education
- **Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance** – focus on multi stakeholder and inclusive approaches to decision making as well as integration of DRR across sectoral plans and devolution and decentralization of governance
- **Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience** – focus on strengthening partnerships with the private sector for, pursue a balance between structural and non-structural disaster-resilient investments as well as promote disaster risk financing/funding mechanisms, models and measures, to reduce disaster risk and to address residual risk
- **Enhancing Preparedness for Effective Response and Build Back Better in Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction** – focus on strengthening multi-hazard EWEA systems, including mechanisms for forecast-based action and financing. Strengthen capacities of local authorities, private sector and communities to integrate DRR approaches across the DRM spectrum
- **Strengthening Sendai Framework Monitoring** – focus on increasing quality data collection and data bases, including sex, age and disability; strengthen institutional and stakeholder linkages with national disaster data platforms.

B. Stakeholder Commitments

In addition to the Declaration and Action Plan, the other key outcomes of the AMCDRR include the [Stakeholder Statements of Action](#), which support the implementation of the Action Plan 2018-2020. Each stakeholder group who attended delivered their voluntary commitments in the closing summary plenary.

- Gender Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Local Authorities Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Media Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Civil Society Organizations Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Persons with Disabilities Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Private Sector Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Science and Technology Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Children and Youth Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)
- Red Cross Red Crescent Stakeholder Group – [commitments](#)

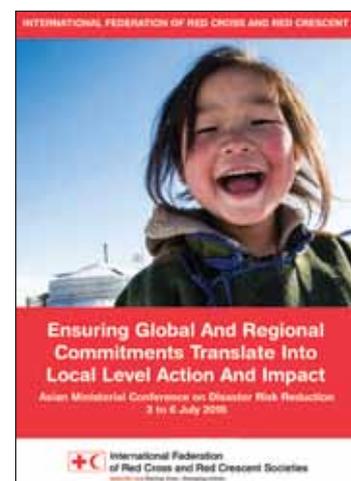


Red Cross and Red Crescent contributions to AMCDRR 2018

A. Preparations

The RCRC's preparations for AMCDRR 2018 comprised seven areas of support:

- RCRC Technical Working Group
- Mongolia Red Cross Preparations
- Admin and Logistics Support
- AMCDRR Drafting Committee
- Technical Session and Thematic Event Organizing Teams
- RCRC Pre-Conference Meeting
- Communications
- Bilateral meetings



The details of this support follow:

1. RCRC Technical Working Group

Since the December 2017 ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Forum, a small technical working group comprising IFRC and National Society representatives drove the AMCDRR preparations. These included:

- Development of the Red Cross Red Crescent Engagement Strategy, including advocacy messages
- Supporting UNISDR in preparing for the Technical Sessions and Thematic Events
- Engagement in IAP Forum 24-25 April 2018 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Development and Design of Advocacy Pocket Guide and DRR in Action Case Studies Booklet
- Development of an opinion editorial on Women's Leadership in DRR, by Madame Bolormaa Nordov, Secretary General of the Mongolian Red Cross, as published by Reuters
- Development of RCRC Action Statement

2. Mongolia Red Cross Preparations

As a leading national organization with a wide network of volunteers and with its recognition by law as a sole national humanitarian organization, Mongolian Red Cross Society led as in the recruitment, training and mobilization of 250 English-speaking volunteers in the lead up to and during the AMCDRR. This was a key commitment that was made by MRCS to its government as part of their membership of the national organising committee for the conference. The volunteers were mobilized at the conference venues, side events, hotels, airport, communication and liaison of country delegations. The 250 volunteers were divided into several groups according to their roles and were trained on the role and workings of Red Cross, disaster risk reduction, first aid, diplomatic relations and other specified areas. The volunteers were then invited to the MRCS Youth training centre for team building activities in the lead up to the conference. This initiative also has contributed to successful mobilization and retaining of the volunteers for future MRCS activities. The role played by Red Cross and its volunteers was recognised by the Prime Minister of Mongolia in a ceremony hosted after the Conference.



Enthusiastic and Energetic Mongolian Red Cross Volunteers in Action during the AMCDRR!

3. Admin and Logistics Support

IFRC Mongolia office, supported by the CCST in Beijing, in collaboration with the Mongolian Red Cross Society provided administrative and logistics support to the RCRC Delegation.

4. AMCDRR Drafting Committee

A formal drafting committee, comprising representatives from the 9 stakeholder groups, 8 government representatives, 1 regional organisation and the UNISDR Secretariat, was formed at the second preparatory meeting, at the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Forum on 24-25 April 2018, in the lead up to the AMCDRR.

Building on the IAP working group consultations for each Sendai priority areas, the drafting committee provided inputs to the conference outcome documents: Ulaanbaatar Declaration and the Action Plan 2018-2020.

The committee was provided four different opportunities to provide written and verbal feedback on the various versions of these documents. During the Conference, the committee met in person to review the outcomes of the various technical and thematic sessions, including any wider feedback received on the outcome documents and continued negotiations until agreement was reached on both documents.



AMCDRR Drafting Committee happy to have finalised the outcome documents!

The final outcome documents, adopted by consensus on the final day of the AMCDRR, incorporate well the priority issues identified by the RCRC in its engagement plan and advocacy materials. These issues include the following:

- Investing in local systems and actors to ensure locally driven climate-smart DRR
- Women in DRR decision making;
- To strengthen sex, age and disability disaggregated data collection and analysis to better target those most at risk of disasters
- Early warning and early action, including forecast-based action and financing
- Addressing displacement risk as part of DRR planning, policy and programming DRR in urban settings

5. Technical Session and Thematic Event Organizing Teams

Formal organizing teams of technical sessions and thematic events, comprising of representatives of governments, intergovernmental and international organizations and networks, started their preparatory works in March 2018 and continued regular calls and exchanges until the AMCDRR. IFRC and Climate Centre formed part of the organizing teams of the Technical Sessions two, four,

five and six, and actively contributed to the session preparations. The Technical Sessions focused on the four priorities of the Sendai Framework, its monitoring and the need for strengthened coherence with other global frameworks. Building on the IAP working group consultations, the organizing teams coordinated by the UNISDR, shaped up these substantive sessions to focus on key strategic and policy level advances and challenges.

The Thematic Events focused on seven themes: private sector interventions, social protection and vulnerability reduction, gender and inclusiveness, community/local action for resilience, ecosystems-based DRR, early warning – early action (EWEA), and technology and innovations. These DRR in Action sessions focused on sharing and discussing experiences in implementation of DRR initiatives, including good practices and lessons learnt. IFRC was the lead organizer and technical coordinator for the Thematic Event on EWEA as well as provided technical support to the UNISDR focal point for the Thematic Event on community/local action for resilience. The UNISDR Call for DRR in Action Case Studies formed the basis for the development and selection of the Case Studies for the different thematic events.

6. RCRC Pre-Conference Meeting



Most of the Red Cross Red Crescent Delegation attended a RCRC Pre-Conference Meeting hosted by the Mongolian Red Cross Society at the MRCS Youth Training Centre on 1-2 July 2018. MRCS and the IFRC APRO team facilitated the two-day meeting which sought to enhance a coordinated approach for the RCRC engagement in the official conference. This included providing an overview of the conference, working together to draft the Action Statement and agreeing on the engagement strategy for the Conference for the purposes of determining which members of the RCRC Delegation would participate and make interventions in the various sessions of the Conference.

7. Communications

Social media

Red Cross Red Crescent messaging on twitter concerning the AMCDRR and our advocacy messages reached an estimated 45,200 twitter accounts. Over 1,100 people interacted with the tweet, either clicking on the links, retweeting or commenting. Mongolia Red Cross Society was also active on social media in the lead up, during and post Conference, including the positing of the RCRC Engagement Video for AMCDRR on their facebook page, available [here](#).

Media coverage

Several of the IFRC and Mongolia Red Cross Society media releases were picked up, including a media release at the close of the Conference on our Statement for Action, available [here](#). An Op Ed on women's leadership in DRR from Mongolia Red Cross Society, Secretary General, Madame Bolormaa was run by [Reuters](#), as well as a Devex article in regards to the RCRC Commitment on women's leadership in the region, available [here](#). Several members of the RCRC Delegation were also featured and interviewed by the National Broadcasting Authority of Mongolia, including through news bulletins on television and the daily newspapers. The strong national media presence, demonstrated the good connections Mongolia has with local media and the served to further raise their profile nationally.

8. Bilateral meetings

AMCDRR 2018 provided an opportunity for IFRC and NS to conduct several high level bilateral meetings with relevant governmental, intergovernmental and partner agencies working alongside the Red Cross Red Crescent in the region. Many follow up actions from these bilateral meetings have been identified, ranging from expansion of existing partnerships to new areas of collaboration – these will be undertaken by relevant IFRC teams and National Societies, as appropriate.

B. Red Cross Red Crescent Engagement During AMCDRR 2018

The Red Cross Red Crescent engaged at AMCDRR 2018 through four main types of fora:

- Technical Sessions
- Thematic Sessions
- Side Events
- Closing Summary

1. Technical Sessions

Six technical sessions were convened. The concept notes of each technical session in the links below include details of the chairs, moderators and panellists.

Technical Session 1

Understanding Disaster Risk ([Concept Note of TS1](#))

Aims of the session:

- Taking stock of the progress made and lessons learned over the last three years on integrating risk considerations in the DRR strategies.
- Highlighting partnership opportunities for increasing awareness and capacity to compile risk assessment to inform local development and actions.

Technical Session 2

Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance to Manage Disaster Risk ([Concept Note of TS2](#))

Aims of the session

Review the status of policy frameworks and institutional bases (implementation and coordination) governing disaster risk reduction in the Asia-Pacific region, and analyses key constraints and opportunities in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework.

Key messages

- Need for a dedicated DRM focused institution
- We have not made the shift from managing disasters to managing disaster risks
- Shared ownership – government to make room to have different stakeholders engaged (governance is not just for governments)

Margareta Wahlström, Swedish Red Cross President (former UNISDR SRSG & Head) made a strong intervention from the floor:

“It’s time to move from promoting female leadership to actively search and identify these leaders and ensure their involvement in DRR Decision making at all levels, while expanding their resource-base to implement DRR.”



Reflections

“Recommendations and positioning are well aligned to that of the IFRC Disaster Law Programme and reinforces recommendations and advocacy for the programme. The key follow-up issues for us are: Localisation/decentralization of DRM Governance; and Inclusion and multi stakeholder approaches: Formalisation of community engagement in DRM Governance mechanisms, including women’s leadership at all levels of DRR decision making.”

– Gabby Emery, IFRC Asia Pacific Disaster Law Coordinator

Technical Session 3

Investing in DRR for Resilience (*Concept Note of TS3*)

Aims of the session:

To strengthen the case for investing in DRR for resilience by

- Identifying the conditions, mechanisms and actions needed for the successful development and implementation of DRR strategies and plans at the national and local level.
- Showcasing achievements in strengthening disaster resilience as a result of investing in DRR.

Key messages

Mainstreaming DRR in development planning translates into more resilient development on the ground, while an inclusive, risk-informed approach to local level planning functions as a catalyst for coordination across levels and sectors.



Mongolia Red Cross Society, Secretary General Madame Bolormaa participates in the Investing in DRR Technical Session

RCRC engagement in the session

Madame Bolormaa Nordov, the Secretary General of the Mongolian Red Cross was asked to share experiences from Mongolia with regard to how advances in modelling and forecasting have opened up opportunities for short-term actions and longer term DRR planning. Accordingly, Madame Bolormaa's sharing included the following:

- innovative forecast-based action which benefited Mongolian herders in the past winter (captured also in the [Case Study](#): Forecast-based Financing for Vulnerable Herders in Mongolia).
- the value of the Dzud Risk Map, developed by the government and an academic partner, and how this information was used by the Mongolian Red Cross and herders.
- preliminary results of the cost-benefit analysis MRCS had conducted in May 2018.

Reflections

Professor Takeya from JICA set the scene for the session. His observations included the following: there is a case for investing in reducing existing and future risks, the importance of positioning DRR as an issue of economic development, allocating a percentage to DRR in national and local budgets, and promoting disaster-related business continuity as key to engaging the private sector. He also emphasised that institutional, budget availability and capacity were key barriers to be tackled, which resonate well with our analysis and plans, including make a stronger case for FbF.

– Sanna Salmela-Eckstein, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional DRR Coordinator

Technical Session 4

Enhancing Preparedness for Effective Response and Building Back Better in Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction ([Concept Note of TS4](#))

Aims of the session

- Highlight key intersections between Priority 4 and Target (e) of the Sendai Framework in the regional context
- Share concrete examples and lessons learnt on national and local DRR strategies which enhance preparedness for effective response and building back better.

Key messages

Planning for building back better requires multi-sectoral coordination, and building coherence and capacities at all levels, and must consider the downstream effects, both negative and positive, of the interventions beyond the intended targets and beneficiaries.

RCRC engagement in the session



Umesh Dhakal, Executive Director of Nepal Red Cross shares their experience in ensuring an integrated approach to recovery during the AMCDRR.

Umesh Dhakal, Head of EQ Response Operation & Executive Director of Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) shared experiences on NRCS' integrated approach towards building back better in reference to the significant devastation caused by the 2015 earthquake. His sharing included the four plus one approach towards building back better – durable shelters, water and sanitation facilities, health facilities, and livelihoods – through training and equipment.

Reflections

Concrete examples were shared on preparedness and recovery, building back better and important elements of DRR strategies. AHA Centre showcased well the institutional advances in preparedness for effective response through ASEAN's regional mechanism, emphasising the importance of multi-stakeholder participation using an inclusive approach known as One ASEAN One Response.

– Sanna Salmela-Eckstein, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional DRR Coordinator

Technical Session 5

Sendai Framework Monitoring: Rolling Out the New Indicators ([Concept Note of TS5](#))

Main aim of the session

Promote and build coherence across the monitoring of the 2030 Development Agendas, especially the Sendai Framework for DRR, Paris Agreements and Sustainable Development Goals.

RCRC Engagement in the Session

Judy Slatyer, CEO of the Australian Red Cross

“Perhaps the real issue ...is how we actually collect this disaggregated data, systematically and at scale, and how we use it to change and improve the quality of our risk reduction and response work.”



Technical Session 6

Coherence Across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([Concept Note of TS6](#))

Aims of the session

To look at concrete steps that have been undertaken and need to be strengthened by Member States and other stakeholders to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement and other global frameworks, are aligned and mutually reinforcing to achieve risk-informed and climate-sensitive development objectives.

Key messages

- Coherence is about having structured and continued dialogues at different levels
- To achieve coherence, we need to strengthen the enabler of resilience – the institutional mechanisms – and ensure structured dialogues for climate-sensitive and risk-informed development
- The existing frameworks don't have coherence as a built-in narrative. Therefore we need to ensure first that there is ownership at different levels through the development strategies
- The call for coherence in the 2030 development agendas cannot and should not stop at the advocacy level. These need to be translated at the local level

RCRC Engagement in the Session

Atty Oscar Palabyab, Secretary General of the Philippine Red Cross made a floor intervention after the panel discussion. He reiterated the importance of translating coherence into operable terms and ensuring that communities benefit the most. He expressed concern that while there some mechanisms already in-place, sometimes, these do not work and are not implemented on the ground.

He emphasized the need for strong leadership and government buy-in on the idea of coherence.



Red Cross Red Crescent
Case Studies: *What works at local level.*

C. Thematic events

Seven *Thematic Events: DRR in Action* were convened. The below section highlights the thematic events with Red Cross Red Crescent engagement. The concept notes of each thematic event in the links below include details of the chairs, discussants and speakers. The Publication Case Studies: *Red Cross Red Crescent Disaster Risk Reduction in Action – What Works at Local Level* features the RCRC Case Studies developed in the lead up to the AMCDRR 2018. Case Studies selected to be presented in the thematic events are highlighted below.

Thematic event: Private Sector Interventions (*Concept Note*)

Highlights

- Important to foster partnerships through private sector networks (e.g. business roundtable)
- Critical for private sector organizations to be prepared and resilient themselves through business continuity plans for disaster situations
- Private sector engagement in disaster risk reduction should be incorporated into legislation

Thematic Event: Social Protection and Vulnerability Reduction (*Concept Note*)

Highlights

- Participation of diverse groups is required
- Collaboration with government is needed to ensure gender, age, disability data is gathered and used to develop policies
- Important to build mass awareness through conventional media and social media



Madame Bolormaa, Secretary General of Mongolia Red Cross and Martin Faller, Deputy Regional Director, IFRC are strong humanitarian advocates during the Thematic Event on Social Protection and Vulnerability Reduction

In Mongolia, 30 percent of the total number of herder households are vulnerable households who are living under the poverty line and receive support from government. Forecast-based Financing (FbF) is one tool that is being increasingly used to prepare vulnerable populations to anticipate disasters based on forecasts and act before a hazard becomes a disaster. For instance, the use of FbF allowed the distribution of cash transfers in advance of an extreme winter condition called “Dzud” in Mongolia – this was more cost-effective than providing post-disaster assistance and it also prevented households from engaging in negative coping strategies – *Madame Bolormaa Nordov, Panellist and MRCS secretary general.*

Link to MRCS Case Study on [Forecast-based Financing for Vulnerable Herders in Mongolia](#)

Link to MRCS Case Study on [Winter Shelters for Rural Herder Families](#)

Thematic Event: Gender and Inclusiveness ([Concept Note](#))

Highlights

Tailoring a programme approach to allow for meaningful engagement with and participation of vulnerable people can increase inclusiveness and gender parity. Engagement of local organisations and the private sector in disaster preparedness and response programming, is more likely to enhance the quality of response – *Gita Pandey, Community Engagement Accountability and Learning Officer, from SURE Program of Nepal Red Cross Society.*



Gita Pandey, Community Engagement Accountability and Learning Officer, from SURE Program of Nepal Red Cross Society, presents a case study on participatory campaign planning process during the Gender and Inclusiveness Thematic Event.

Thematic Event: Community/Local Action for Resilience ([Concept Note](#))

Highlights

- Importance of localising the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Peoples partnerships are key to building resilience
- Urban resilience is important for many Asia Pacific countries

Thematic Event: Early Warning Early Action ([Concept Note](#))

Main aim of the event

This thematic event aimed to showcase innovative examples that demonstrate how early warning was used to trigger early action that reduced impact of disasters.



Mr Belal Hossain, DM Director of Bangladesh Red Crescent and Margareta Wahlstrom making a compelling case of why we need to step up investment in early warning, early action!

Highlights:

- Partnerships and accountability – the need to work in partnership with scientific bodies, operational implementers and community organizers while giving a strong legal basis to Early Warning Early Action.
- Monitoring and assessment of progress of EWEA systems.
- Local resources for preparedness and EWEA systems is integral to local preparedness – hence the need for decentralization of resources.

Other elements included integrated platforms, sustainability, forecast-based financing, cash, financing and Inter-agency cooperation; data; and the link between disaster and poverty.

RCRC engagement in the session

- Ms. Margareta Wahlström, the President of the Swedish Red Cross and invited Discussant for this Thematic Event on EWEA, together with Ms. Adelina Kamal, the Executive Director of the AHA Centre and the Chair of this Thematic Event on EWEA, were excellent in steering the discussion forward and pulling out overarching key messages, common success traits and good practices.
- Mr. Belal Hossain, the DRM Director from the Bangladesh Red Crescent presented a case study: *Forecast-based Financing: Effective Early Action to Reduce Flood Impacts*. His presentation is available [here](#).
- Mr. Loti Yates, the Director of the Solomon Island NDMO presented a case study: *More than response: Building partnerships to engage communities in preparedness and early warning systems in the Pacific*. His presentation is available [here](#).

Reflections

The Thematic Event showcased exceptionally strong case studies demonstrating how early warning has triggered early action across Asia Pacific, covering typhoon, heatwave, flood, drought and dzud early warnings and relevant actions ranging from simple, low-cost, easily replicable early actions to those requiring more detailed plans and procedures to release financial resources to enable effective implementation of early actions. It also featured the sharing of a representative of the herder community which was able to be well prepared for difficult winter conditions recently as a result of assistance received through an Early Warning Early Action intervention from the MRCS.

– Sanna Salmela-Eckstein, IFRC Asia Pacific Regional DRR Coordinator



Perspectives from the community were shared by a Mongolian herder, Mr. Myagmar Bicheech, who was able to be well prepared for difficult winter conditions recently thanks to early action assistance provided by Mongolia Red Cross Society

E. Side events

1. IFRC Side Event

Disaster Risk Reduction and Displacement: The importance of Local Actors and Local Action.

This event aimed to discuss and profile the work of local actors like Red Cross and Red Crescent and action that can be taken to address displacement risk, as well as respond to displacement issues in times of disaster and to highlight challenges and opportunities therein. Speakers included representatives of the Bangladesh local and national government and the Bangladesh Red Crescent, who discussed how they work together on DRR initiatives to support displaced and host communities in Cox's Bazaar. The case study *Preparing and Reducing Risks of Disaster to Displaced Communities* from the Bangladesh Red Crescent and American Red Cross was presented. Other sharing was on housing, land and property initiatives and planned relocations in the Philippines during Typhoon Haiyan; climate change in the Solomon Islands and its impact on people, including forced displacement. Challenging reactive and negative narratives to disaster displacement, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre inspired us to see displacement as an opportunity to build our adaptive capacity, building on integrated approaches to addressing risks.



2. RCRC Side Event

Technology and Innovations for Urban Solutions

Organized by GPC and ADPC and moderated by Heather Fehr, British Red Cross, this event looked at new technologies including those which are being used to analyse satellite imagery for mass distribution of early warning data in urban areas. Significantly, the discussion also focused on the need to ensure messages or data is from sources people trust (the RCRC was cited as an example of a trusted provider of early warning messages).

Key Challenges

There are 2.5 billion cell phone users in Asia, and the penetration of smart phones is about 740 million, so low and high technology is still necessary to reach scale.

Key Messages

With diverse populations in cities, we need to ensure there are multiple ways to disseminate hazard and risk information from trusted sources. At the same time, traditional forms of Early Warning Early Action are still necessary as technology cannot reach everyone.

Reflections

“It would be good to ‘take stock’ across National Societies and see who is having success using different technology platforms and replicate it for others which might need it. Also to see the technologies which cities are using - technology can be a solid part of both communication and engagement with communities.”

– Heather Fehr, British Red Cross

D. Closing Summary session

In the Closing Summary session, **key achievements** in collective action on DRR in the region were highlighted. These include the establishment of national DRR focal points, more concerted efforts to move from disaster management to disaster risk management; strengthened capacity, and more robust governance frameworks, including the integration of DRR in development plans. Preparedness mechanisms and contingency planning was also seen to have improved. International, regional and national days promoting risk reduction have helped shine the spotlight on DRR and support awareness and advocacy efforts. However, **challenges** remain and more efforts are needed in reference to the following: capacity gaps particularly at local level; global and national data alignment and data disaggregation; inter-ministerial and sectoral coordination; financing and investments; governance at local level; and early warning and early action.



RCRC Profile at AMCDRR 2018

Conference Volunteers – Mongolian Red Cross Society

A total of 250 MRCS volunteers, dressed in red conference t-shirts, supported the conference organizers throughout the 2018 AMCDRR. MRCS was able to fulfil its auxiliary role to the government during the AMCDRR conference by providing well-trained, English speaking volunteers. Their support was recognized officially during the closing ceremony and they were handed a certificate of appreciation from the Deputy Prime Minister's office in Mongolia.



Community Voices

MRCSS invited the herder community to speak on their experience and reflections on the severe winter conditions/Dzud in the recent past. Two herders from Darkhan and Tuv provinces joined the conference. Mr. Myagmar Bicheech was invited to make a specific intervention from the floor during the thematic event on Early Warning Early Action. He emphasised the importance of the information received from the government and timely assistance received in advance from the Mongolian Red Cross as part of Early Warning Early Action interventions, to cope with the winter.



Herders from the Darkhan and Tuv provinces at the Thematic Event on Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) and the Red Goes Green reception

Local DRR champions recognised

The Asian Local Leaders Forum for Disaster Resilience (ALL4DR) honoured local DRR champions at the Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, by presenting five leaders from across Asia and the Pacific with awards for their inspirational work in leading DRR work in their communities. Otgonbayar Baljin, from the Mongolian Red Cross Darkhan branch, was recognised for her role in establishing community groups that help Mongolia's herder communities to construct winter shelters to protect their livestock from the harsh winters – this helped reduce losses from starvation and exposure. [UNISDR article [link](#)]

Red Goes Green Reception

The 'Red Goes Green Reception' was the official Mongolian Red Cross and IFRC reception. The theme Red Goes Green was picked to showcase Red Cross Red Crescent's initiatives in the region to better integrate climate approaches in programming, as well as to demonstrate practical ways to minimise the environmental impact of humanitarian assistance operations. The event included presentations and exhibits on the following:

- Climate Change in Mongolia
- Green Response
- Photo exhibition on extreme climatic events in Mongolia and the impact on people and the land.

Government delegations, embassies and relevant stakeholders were invited totalling 150-200 participants in the reception.

A fantastic flashmob was also created and choreographed by the Mongolian Red Cross Youth members with a theme, early warning and early action was displayed during the Red Goes Green reception. Check out the video of the flash mob [here](#)

Ignite Stage

The Ignite Stage presentation highlighted the need to understand that the global natural environment is in a system-wide crisis, and that we all depend on nature for our survival and well-being. The event also featured a quiz and the introduction of the RCRC Green Response Initiative, as well as two Green Response Case Studies:



- *Greening the IFRC Supply Chains; Mapping Our GHG Emissions;*
- *Environmental Field Advisor deployment in an emergency response*

The Japan Red Cross Nuclear Disaster Resource Centre also presented on their work at the Ignite Stage. Their presentation gave an over view of the initiatives that have been undertaken by the Japan Red Cross Nuclear Disaster Resource centre and made a strong case on why preparedness for nuclear disaster assistance is critical. More information on the Nuclear Disaster Resource Centre, including helpful resources can be found [here](#).

Disaster Risk Reduction Exhibition at Sukhbaatar Square

The official opening of the DRR Exhibition at Sukhbaatar Square took place on 4 July 2018 ([video link](#))

The RCRC manned three exhibition booths at the 2018 AMCDRR:

1. Mongolian Red Cross Society's booth – Urban and Community based disaster risk reduction



2. Asia Pacific Disaster Resilience Centre (APDRC) Virtual Reality booth – Innovation and technology in DRR



3. IFRC booth – Asia Pacific regional approach to reduce disaster risk reduction.





Way forward

In order to implement and translate the fifteen Red Cross and Red Crescent AMCDRR commitments into action on the ground, all Asia Pacific National Societies and the IFRC Secretariat are encouraged to include these commitments into their 2019/2020 Planning. For its part, the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office and country teams will be taking the Action Statement and commitments therein as key contributor into our operational planning. We will also be developing easy to use mechanisms to regular monitor and report against our AMCDRR commitments.

Our AMCDRR commitments should also be used as a strategic opportunity to engage with government and other stakeholders, to discuss how we have committed to work with them to strengthen DRR and resilience in our countries and communities. Over the coming months, we will develop communications and advocacy tools to support you in your engagement efforts.

Perhaps you could consider setting up bilateral meetings with relevant government agencies and partners or convene a round table meeting to discuss how you will work together to realise

the Asia Regional Plan and its corresponding commitments, over the coming two years.

We look forward to working with you towards the fulfilment of our shared commitments to strengthen inclusive DRR initiatives at the local level, and to continue to shape the policy dialogue at the next Global Platform (2019 in Geneva) and the following AMCDRR to be hosted in Australia in 2020.

The IFRC Secretariat, together with the Australian Red Cross have already met with UNISDR and the Government of Australia to discuss Red Cross Red Crescent support and engagement in the lead up to and during the 2020 AMCDRR. We are confident that the Australian Red Cross will continue the outstanding legacy set by the Mongolia Red Cross in its strong partnership with the government, the RCRC stakeholder group and UNISDR, in preparations towards the 2020 AMCDRR.



Annexes

Annex 1: Statement of Action: Red Cross Red Crescent Stakeholder Group



[COMMITMENT FOR ACTION]

ASIAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

PREVENTING DISASTER RISK: PROTECTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

• 03 – 06 July 2018 • Ulaanbaatar • Mongolia

Statement of Action: Red Cross Red Crescent Stakeholder Group

Over the next two years, we need to work together to ensure that global commitments, especially Sendai, translate into local action and impact. Individuals and communities are hardest hit by disasters and crises, exacerbated by climate change. For the Red Cross Red Crescent, communities all over the world are the “first mile” for effective climate risk management, early action and preparedness. The affected population must be at the centre of and engaged in genuine partnerships to protect their lives and livelihoods and determine, lead and strengthen their own resilience.

Our 39 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Asia Pacific comprising 135,000 local branches and approximately ten million volunteers work every day with and for the communities.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Stakeholder Group has made substantial progress since the last AMCDRR across all priority areas of the Sendai Framework for DRR and Asia Action Plan 2016 -2018.

Our key achievements include the following:

- Our network of community based volunteers annually supports millions of the most vulnerable communities members in the region identify their own risks and determine local actions to build their own resilience.
- As community based and auxiliary to public authorities in the humanitarian field our volunteers belong to the communities they work with, strengthening local systems and resilience, to ensure that resources reach those who need it the most.
- We know that disasters impact people differently based on gender, age and disability. We have improved the way we collect and use data to better target those most at risk in disasters and crisis. However more needs to be done by the Red Cross Red Crescent and all stakeholders including government, to meet the needs of women and girls and those at risk of sexual and gender based violence in disasters.
- We are working with the most vulnerable communities to act before disaster strikes, based on improved use of weather forecasts and the projection of hazards. We are working with partners to take forecast based action and financing to scale

- We all must do more to prevent and reduce displacement due to disasters and climate change, that is why we are mobilising our local networks to respond to this growing challenge.
- We are adapting our policies, plans and programmes to better address the needs of communities living in a rapidly growing urban environment.
- We aim to continually minimize the environmental footprint of our work, starting with humanitarian response, to ensure accountability to communities and the environment.

Key Achievements against the 2016 – 2018 Action Plan include:

Priority Area One: Understanding Disaster Risk

We continue to support communities to understand and act on risks through participatory approaches such as the vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA). This is well illustrated by the work of Indonesian Red Cross' community based action teams who have been working with their local authorities and the science community to conduct VCAs and analyse the results to bring about effective targeted action. Progress has been made adapting tools traditionally designed for rural settings to be used in more complex urban contexts. Nepal Red Cross is another good example of this, working alongside community-based organizations together with municipal authorities and vulnerable urban populations to ensure more meaningful DRR interventions, suited for the urban context.

Finally, we know that to understand risk we need to better understand underlying vulnerabilities. Over the past two years, we have strengthened our data collection and analysis to ensure that the data we collect is sex, age and disability disaggregated so we can better address these underlying vulnerabilities. We have proven examples of how we have strengthened data literacy, including data collection on the prevalence of sexual and gender based violence during disaster amongst local actors in several South East Asian countries.

Priority Area Two: DRR Governance

We have worked with governments and partners, at subnational, national and regional levels to ensure that climate smart DRM laws and policies are gender sensitive and provide an enabling regulatory environment for local action and inclusive community engagement. Nepal, Samoa and Lao Red Cross' have supported their authorities to integrate protection, gender and inclusion approaches in climate and disaster related laws and policies. Progress has also been made in community engagement and dissemination of relevant laws and policies by Vietnam, Philippines and Cambodia Red Cross'.

Priority Area Three: Invest in DRR for Resilience

We have engaged leaders in the private sector as champions of DRR and encourage them to channel investments to where it is needed most - at the local level. The Australian Red Cross involvement in the Australian Business Roundtable for Disaster Resilience and Safer communities is an excellent example of this. Bangladesh Red Crescent, Indonesian Red Cross and Mongolian Red Cross have been working with the private sector and financial service providers for effective cash transfers, among others. In Mongolia, besides piloting Forecast-based Financing (FbF), we have worked with herder communities to reduce livestock loss and safeguard their livelihoods through the construction of winter shelters for livestock, which also contributes to long term community preparedness.

Priority Area Four: Preparedness and Build Back Better

Managing heightened risk between a climate or weather forecast and the potential disaster event is one of the innovative approaches that we promote to ensure effective disaster preparedness for response in support of at risk communities. In Bangladesh, the Early Action protocol of the FbF was activated and an unconditional cash grant was released to assist over one thousand households by the Bangladesh Red Crescent which allowed flexibility for individuals and communities to prepare and to take the necessary measures to reduce the impact of the impending flood. For the first time ever, FbF was activated in Mongolia before the peak of the last winter season, in anticipation of dzud. Mongolia Red Cross assisted 2000 vulnerable herders before their animals became weak thereby avoiding livestock loss and reducing negative impact on herders' livelihoods.

Our recent experience in Nepal demonstrates that an integrated, risk informed approach to community centred recovery works. The approach combined durable shelter solutions, improved access to WASH, reduction of health risks, restored livelihoods and strengthened institutions at the local level. The recovery work of Nepal Red Cross since 2015 provides some excellent examples of a balanced approach between hard and soft recovery measures, to truly 'build back better'.

Finally, youth centred action and engagement as agents of behaviour change is critical if we want to continue making a difference tomorrow. Red Cross Red Crescent South East Asia Youth Network has been taking the lead in piloting the Youth in School Safety Programme, promoting safety in school and communities- results of which are available in the South-East Asia school safety mapping.

Refer to our evidenced based case studies What Works at Local Level prepared for the 2018 AMCDRR find out more about how we have been working with communities in Asia Pacific these past two years. The full case studies are available [here](#).

Red Cross Red Crescent Commitments to support the implementation of the 2018 – 2020 Action Plan include:

In the 2018 - 2020 Action Plan we commit to scale up evidenced based climate-smart DRM programmes to have greater impact, through collective approaches and partnerships.

This includes:

Priority Area One: Understanding Disaster Risk

We call on governments and stakeholders, to join us, to increase investment in local systems and people to strengthen awareness and understanding of changing climate, disaster, social and health related risk. This includes addressing through community led action, the different impact disasters can have on diverse groups, taking into account gender, age and disability. We collectively need to better understand the risk of people being displaced by disasters, crises and climate change, and the impacts on individuals and communities.

The Red Cross Red Crescent commits to achieve the following by 2020:

- 50% of National Societies will have strengthened volunteer networks and systems to collect and analyse sex and age disaggregated data, to carry out more inclusive programming and advocacy for legislative and policy change.

- We will better understand disaster, social, health and displacement risks and their impact through supporting volunteers to undertake community level climate-smart risk and vulnerability assessments.
- We will always involve local stakeholders in public awareness, campaigns and public education and action that enhances knowledge to reduce current and prevent future disaster risk. As local volunteer-based organisations, we will continue to champion local expertise and knowledge sharing through peer to peer exchange in the region.

Priority Area Two: Disaster Risk Governance

We call on governments to engage stakeholders in the revision, development and implementation of effective climate and disaster relevant laws, regulations and plans (including sectorial laws) at national and subnational levels. These frameworks must prioritise holistic risk reduction and provide meaningful engagement and leadership opportunities for communities, particularly women, at risk and marginalised groups in decision making, as well as provide for budgetary allocation to support local level action in the context of changing risk patterns.

For its part the Red Cross Red Crescent commits to achieve the following by 2020:

- All National Societies will engage with their governments and key stakeholders at national and subnational levels, to support the development, revision and implementation of relevant laws and regulations as well as DRR strategies, thereby contributing to achieving Target (e) by 2020.
- All National Societies and IFRC will significantly increase their efforts to identify, support and promote women into 50% of senior leadership and governance positions and decision-making platforms.
- National Societies will meaningfully engage women, at risk and marginalised groups in disaster risk management decision making processes, to ensure that their specific needs are considered and potential optimised in planning and programming. We will provide support to governments to review and develop relevant laws, regulations and plans to incorporate protection, gender and inclusion concerns, with a focus on sexual and gender based violence in disasters.

Priority Area Three: Investing in DRR for Resilience

We call on governments and stakeholders to double their investment in locally led climate-smart DRR action and livelihoods. We further call on governments to establish and/or operationalise DRR budgetary allocations, in accordance with their legislation. In addition, budgets and mechanisms to operationalise evidence – based innovative approaches such as Forecast-based Financing must be formalised in national and local systems.

The Red Cross Red Crescent commits to achieve the following by 2020:

- Under the One Billion Coalition for Resilience we will engage youth and diverse groups from the public, business, and academia and in governments to champion community resilience and invest in local action, enabling National Societies to double our initiatives in community led climate-smart DRR action and livelihoods.
- We will establish partnerships in ten countries to support the development of innovative local level risk financing mechanisms, including insurance, Forecast-based Financing and social protection schemes.

- We will scale up our community led urban disaster risk reduction programmes with the support of our Manila based Urban Hub and the Asia Pacific Disaster Resilience Centre to support communities in cities to meet the challenges of an increasingly urban Asia Pacific.

Priority Area Four: Preparedness and Build Back Better

We call on governments and stakeholders to strengthen systems and to enable evidence informed early warning early action, preparedness for effective response, and build back better in recovery that engages and is accountable to communities and protects and includes those most at risk of disasters.

For its part the Red Cross Red Crescent commits to achieve the following by 2020:

- We will double our investment in people-centred, evidence informed early warning early action, this will include development of Early Action Protocols by ten National Societies to make them FbF ready.
- We commit to ensuring environmental sustainability of emergency response by protecting the environment which communities depend on, thereby reducing risk and vulnerability to future disasters and the impacts of our changing climate. We will continue to advocate and mobilize communities, humanitarians, conservation practitioners, government officials and donors to incorporate environmental sustainability aspects into disaster and complex emergency responses.
- We will enable and promote our youth leaders to act as agents of behavioural change to reduce risks in their own communities and to take active part in developing youth-led school safety initiatives.
- We will strive to ensure our preparedness for response and recovery activities consider the specific needs of displaced persons, refugees and migrants and other at-risk populations, including sexual and gender-based violence survivors.
- We will work with communities to build back better, through risk-informed approaches ensuring engagement and accountability to them, as well as support local pre-disaster recovery planning.
- We will invest resources to ensure that all National Societies are cash ready to undertake anticipatory action prior to disaster and crises, timely disaster response and community led sustainable recovery.

The Red Cross and Red Crescent is a local to global organisation committed to achieving action, results and impact for the most vulnerable. We will continue to work collaboratively to achieve our shared Sendai commitments over the coming two years and beyond.

Annex 2: List of Red Cross Red Crescent Delegation to AMCDRR

Asia Pacific National Societies

- 1 Judy Slayter**
Australia Red Cross
Chief Executive Officer
- 2 Michael Annear**
Australia Red Cross
Head of International program for APRO
- 3 Hossain Md Belal**
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Director of DRM
- 4 Mohammad Shahjahan**
Bangladesh Red Crescent
FBF Project manager
- 5 Rakibul Alam**
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Youth
- 6 Thinley Gyeltshen**
Bhutan Red Cross
Interim Governing Board
- 7 Dragyel Tenzin Dorjee**
Bhutan Red Cross
Secretary General
- 8 Ge Xing**
Red Cross Society of China
Youth
- 9 Betty Lau**
RCSC-HK branch
Head of International & Relief Service
- 10 Ri Ho Rim**
DPRK Red Cross
Secretary General
- 11 Morteza Salimi**
Iranian Red Cross
Head of Relief
- 12 Seyed Abdolsaleh Jafari**
Iranian Red Cross
Advisor to the President
- 13 Hassan Esfandiari**
Iranian Red Cross
Deputy Director General for International Communications
- 14 Masakazu Karube**
Japan Red Cross
Deputy Director General of DM
- 15 Nobuaki Sato**
Japan Red Cross
Director of International Relief Division
- 16 Jaeseok PARK**
Korean Red Cross/ADPRC
APDRC, Programme Manager
- 17 Kihoon Lee**
Korean Red Cross
Head of Disaster Relief Team
- 18 Madame Bolormaa**
Mongolia Red Cross Society
Secretary General
- 19 Davaajargal Batdorj**
Mongolia Red Cross Society
Director Programmes and Cooperation
- 20 Enkhtaivan Enkhbayar**
Mongolia Red Cross Society
Director - Administration
- 21 Munguntuya Sharavnyambu**
Mongolia Red Cross Society
Head Disaster Management
- 22 Mya Thu**
Myanmar Red Cross
President
- 23 Nan Ma Ma Myo**
Myanmar Red Cross
Programme Manager
- 24 Moe Thida Win**
Myanmar Red Cross
Disaster Management
- 25 Paing-Thant Ko Ko**
Myanmar Red Cross
Youth
- 26 Sanjiv Thapa**
Nepal Red Cross
Chairman
- 27 Dev Ratna Dhakhwa**
Nepal Red Cross
Secretary General

28 Manoj Kumar Thapa
Nepal Red Cross
*President, Disaster and Crisis Management
Committee*

29 Umesh Prasad Dhakal
Nepal Red Cross
Head of ERO

30 Gita Kumari Pandey
Nepal Red Cross
*Community Engagement Accountability and
Learning (CEAL) Officer*

31 Oscar Palabyab
Philippines
Secretary General

Partner National Societies and Reference Centres

32 Heather Kathleen Fehr
British
DRR Adviser

33 Raymond Zingg
German Red Cross
FbF Project Delegate

34 Margareta Wahlstrom
Swedish Red Cross
President

35 Peder Damm
Danish Red Cross
Regional Disaster Management Delegate Asia

36 Colin Fernandes
American Red Cross
Contractor

37 Aditi Kapoor
Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

38 Donna Mitzi.D.Lagdomeo
Red Cross Red Crescent Climate
Centre
Senior Policy Advisor

**39 Navaratne Mohottalage Achala Indumith
Bandara**
American Red Cross in Bangladesh
Country Representative

40 Nathan Cooper
Global Disaster Preparedness Center
*Senior Advisor, Innovation and Disaster
Preparedness*

ICRC

41 Kira Suleimanyan
ICRC
Cooperation coordinator (Beijing)

42 Christy Pravita Kumesan
ICRC
Programme officer, Indonesia

IFRC

43 Xavier Castellanos
APRO
Regional Director

44 Martin Faller
APRO
Deputy Regional Director

45 Gwendolyn Pang
CCST Beijing
Head of Country Cluster

46 Sanna Salmela-Eckstein
APRO
Regional DRR Coordinator

47 Gabby Emery
APRO
Disaster Law Programme Coordinator

48 Thomaz Carlzon
APRO
Disaster Risk Management Manager

49 Zahra Bolouri
APRO
Partnerships and Engagement Coordinator

50 Maude Froberg
CCST Beijing
Communication manager

Government officials supported by RCRC

51 Myat Moe Thwe
IFRC in Myanmar
*Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and
Resettlement*

52 Suresh Adhikari
IFRC
Government official

53 Ahmadul Haque
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Ministry of Disaster Management&Relief

54 Md. Nikaruzzaman
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Upazila Nirbahi officer, Ukhia, Cox's Bazar

55 Md. Rezual Karim
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Ukhia Cox Bazar

56 Md. Anwar Hossain
Bangladesh Red Crescent
Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat

57 Nilmani Baral
Nepal Red Cross
"CEC Member – NRCS, Vice Chair of Social Welfare Council, Gov of Nepal"



The Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Humanity The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

Impartiality It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

Neutrality In order to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

Independence The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

Voluntary service It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

Unity There can be only one Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

Universality The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.



For further information, please contact:

**International Federation
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