The One Billion Coalition for Resilience (1BC) provides an opportunity for individuals, households, communities and organisations to work together to increase collective impact in resilience-building world-wide. We invite you to join the 1BC!

http://media.ifrc.org/1bc

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This year millions of people in Asia Pacific will be forced to flee their homes due to disasters. This number is expected to increase as the impacts of climate change intensify. We must do more to prevent and reduce displacement, and protect those most at risk, including through community-led climate-smart DRR initiatives. As local actors, Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies are well placed to support governments to better prevent and prepare for displacement.

Unsettled cities
Mega challenges!

By 2025 the majority of Asia Pacific’s population will be living in urban areas – forcing hundreds of millions of people to settle in disaster prone areas and creating new risks. We must adapt to this new reality and ensure our policies, plans and programmes are fit for purpose, and cover the whole spectrum of early action, emergency response and recovery. We need to learn and share lessons from successful urban DRR actions globally to sharpen our focus on this growing challenge. The Red Cross and Red Crescent stands ready to work with partners through our extensive network of urban based volunteers in all urban areas across Asia Pacific.

Emergency responses have the potential for positive and negative impacts on the environment. A good example is the supply chain, where sourcing local, sustainably produced materials can result in not only less environmental impact, but improved sustainability and localisation of aid. Our challenge is to continually minimize our environmental footprint, in all aspects of our work. Green Response is an International Red Cross and Red Crescent initiative aimed at improving the environmental outcomes of humanitarian activities and that emphasizes stronger accountability to affected populations and the environment.
Individuals and communities must be supported to understand their own risks, to take action and participate in official decision-making processes. Organisations like Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies - with over 11 million volunteers globally - are rooted in communities and well placed to accompany those most at-risk to disaster and climate change and ensure locally owned actions are informed by global best practice.

If we are seriously about assisting the most vulnerable, we need to collectively get better at collecting and using data. This data must be SADD – sex, age and disability disaggregated – so we can better understand the needs and vulnerabilities of the affected population before and after disasters. This will reduce the impact on women and girls and those whose risk of sexual, and gender based violence increases in disasters.

Let’s support at-risk communities to take early action before a disaster strikes based on specific forecast thresholds and risk analysis. Together with our partners, we are working to put in place policies, partnerships and action at local level to lessen the impact and cost on communities and authorities. Forecast-based action and financing needs to be institutionalised at all levels and taken to scale across the region.

Let’s work to ensure climate-smart DRR initiatives and investment reach the right actors and strengthen local systems. Global and national resources must be targeted towards where they are needed most. This will allow local authorities and communities to take locally managed solutions, ultimately making best use of available resources.

People power! Individuals and communities building their own resilience.

Get behind local action Ensure global and national commitments have local impact.

Disasters don’t discriminate – do you? Disasters have different impact based on gender, age or disability.

Early Warning - Early Action Anticipate, reduce impact and avert disasters!