



4,640,000

CHF  
Funding requirement

32 million

Combined population  
of the Pacific

13

Pacific National  
Societies

27,000

Volunteers (combined)

## PACIFIC

### IFRC Country Cluster Support Team

## 2019 PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Across the Pacific, the Red Cross National Societies are recognized and respected humanitarian responders, and as auxiliary to their governments, they provide key support in health, youth, disaster risk reduction, and response to disasters and crises which affect the most vulnerable. The Pacific sub-region faces increasing risk from disasters and a changing climate, featuring five of 15 of the countries most at-risk to disasters in the world. With communities living across vast, isolated and hard to reach islands, ensuring the Pacific Red Cross Societies have a continued localized approach and strong volunteer network within communities is a must.

Continuing from 2018, the country cluster Support Team (CCST) Pacific operational plan promotes a hierarchy of support on foundational and capacity building initiatives for National Society development that is intended to strengthen National Society's implementation of their strategic programming goals. The areas of priority include National Society legal base, governance, financial sustainability, accountability and transparency, as well as youth and volunteer base together with their core services. These services include community and commercial first aid, voluntary non-remunerated blood donation and early actions for disasters by communities based on early warnings. A specific focus on building branch capacity to deliver services to the last mile will remain a key goal.

In 2019, the IFRC CCST Pacific operational plan continues to prioritize increasing internal, domestic, organizational and constitutional accountabilities of the Movement within Pacific National Societies to increase their sustainability, relevance and effectiveness.

Support will also focus on developing areas that are necessary for the achievement of the strategic priorities of the Movement and trust on local Red Cross National Societies including data management and accountability, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse – through a focus on protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) – and cash-based interventions (CBI) which includes the rollout of the Pacific Red Cross CBI roadmap developed in partnership with Australian Red Cross towards the end of 2018.

IFRC will continue to represent Red Cross and civil society on the Pacific Resilience Partnership taskforce to guide the implementation of the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP). IFRC's role will help to bridge the gap between regional policy and remote communities in the Pacific.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT



### Pacific humanitarian challenges

The Pacific is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world, with tropical cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and drought which have high economic social and environmental impacts. The real effects of climate change are being felt by people across the islands, with an increased frequency and intensity of weather-related disasters and rising sea levels.

These small island states face other common challenges including issues related to health, particularly in terms of non-communicable diseases. Lastly, the region has a very young population, coupled with high unemployment and lack of opportunities for youth.

## STATISTICS

- 31.4** poverty rate in the Pacific region.
- 4** out of 10 countries most vulnerable to natural disasters in the world located in the Pacific.
- 33%** of adults in Fiji living with diabetes.
- 20.6** years is the average age in Solomon Islands.
- 68%** of women in Kiribati experience domestic violence.
- 25%** of people in Marshall Islands are estimated to have TB.

## AREAS OF FOCUS

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**CHF 130,000 REQUIRED**

Our emphasis is on supporting early actions at community level by volunteers linked to supporting governments in their attempts to systematize early warning to the 'last mile'. Processes developed over the piloting of early warning early action (EWEA) will continue to be refined for each National Society with an increasing emphasis on gendered dimensions of risk.

- Four National Societies with EWEA linked to government systems.
- Four resilience program approaches in place.

### SHELTER

**CHF 210,000 REQUIRED**

National Societies are the largest providers of humanitarian shelter assistance in the Pacific sub-region. In 2019, the shelter component will be further integrated into the resilience programming of several National Societies, to more comprehensively reduce exposure of the most vulnerable communities to hazards and increase their overall resilience.

- Six national government-led shelter clusters are in place.

### HEALTH

**CHF 400,000 REQUIRED**

Health emphasis will be on developing core services in an auxiliary role to governments encompassing community-based health, first aid, voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, non-communicable disease prevention and epidemic preparedness and response.

- 20,000 people reached through direct health service provision.
- 500 new health volunteers to be trained.

### WASH

**CHF 60,000 REQUIRED**

Pacific National Societies will work with Pacific Community (SPC) on coastal aquifer protection project to ensure fresh water can be protected for the people living in the atoll states. Pacific National Societies will also emphasize on the building capacity on emergency WASH to better respond to disasters. The WASH competency matrix will be adapted to Pacific context. Menstrual hygiene management will be one of key elements that will be integrated in DREF and Emergency Appeal to better support women of reproductive age with proper hygiene messages.

### PROTECTION, GENDER & INCLUSION

**CHF 50,000 REQUIRED**

- Five National Societies have set gender and diversity targets in board representation.
- Three National Societies strengthen policy compliance for protection and response of sexual exploitation and abuse.

## STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITY

**CHF 2,263,016 REQUIRED**

As the diversity of Pacific National Societies do not fit a common agenda, tailor-made support is required for each country. This will include ensuring that National Societies have the structures, spaces, sovereignty and alignment in external support to ensure their boards and management are driving the self-development of the organizations. The areas to provide support are legal base and governance development, youth volunteer-led actions, strengthening branches, financial sustainability, promoting auxiliary status, widening partnership, and strategic planning and reporting. This also includes National Society institutional preparedness for disasters to undertake their auxiliary roles as first responders.

- 13 National Societies will have audited financial reports, strong youth engagement and youth-led voluntary actions, self-development plan in follow up to OCAC, provide data on FDRS on annual basis, and have long term programme with CEA.
- 19 branches have stronger capacity to be first responders to disasters.

### ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**CHF 600,000 REQUIRED**

The early warning early action model of National Societies will be developed as part of an integrated branch and resilience model as will the auxiliary role in peacetime and in disasters. A feature of institutional preparedness will be closely aligned with branch and volunteer development. IFRC will also continue providing quality and timely support in mobilizing and coordinating international assistance during disasters, crises, and public health emergencies to enable the National Societies to deliver more effective responses.

### INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNER

**CHF 1,200,000 REQUIRED**

Utilizing the auxiliary status of National Societies to act in the pursuit of humanitarian diplomacy to influence decision-makers and opinion leaders to support more inclusive and multi-stakeholder approaches that engage communities in decision-making processes, particularly those who are most at risk with disasters.

- Four National Societies have drafted national & local disaster & climate-related laws and policy documents.
- IFRC ensures strong local voice in the Pacific policies, through its membership on the Pacific Resilience Partnership taskforce and MoU with Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS).
- Three National Societies with better defined auxiliary roles in draft or new national laws and policies.

### ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

**CHF 290,000 REQUIRED**

In addition to ensuring the necessary coordination mechanisms, the ability to implement this plan and budget depends on an effective IFRC, seen as relevant and credible, representing and working towards the collective interests as well as providing relevant valued services to the membership. Shared office support costs (SOSC) is an essential contribution to funding a strong Pacific CCST.

## CONTACTS

For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Country, please contact:

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