PAPUA NEW GUINEA
IFRC Country Office

COUNTRY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is part of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that are highly vulnerable to climate change and are already experiencing its impacts. These states are particularly affected by rising sea levels, tropical cyclones, and changing rainfall patterns. These impacts pose specific risks ranging from the loss of livelihoods, coastal settlements and economic stability to the decline and possible loss of coral reef ecosystems.

During the first half of 2018, earthquakes, peace and security instability and a polio outbreak led to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in PNG with 270,000 people in need of immediate life-saving assistance and 544,000 people affected.

With a population of 8.25 million, PNG ranks 153rd out of 189 countries on the 2018 Human Development Index. More than 40 per cent of the population is under the age of 14 and will soon enter an already underemployed workforce. Women are severely marginalised.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society (PNGRCS) is faced with both internal and external challenges that require prudent leadership in governance as well as guided strategic management. Institutional reforms have achieved considerable progress, but the PNGRCS Governance and management accepts the continued need for reforms and has started embracing the change process within the National Society. However, challenges are compounded by the economic downturn, frequent occurrences of disasters, capacity issues and geographical difficulties that are beyond PNGRCS control.

Despite the challenges, PNGRCS is maintaining its focus on delivering services to the vulnerable, fulfilling its mandate as a volunteer aid society, and providing auxiliary support to the government. IFRC has proven its relevance in supporting PNGRCS adequately through its Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), programming and network forums.

In 2019, IFRC's aim is to further strengthen PNGRCS to be a strong and revitalised National Society fortified with a change in mindset and organizational culture.
NEEDS ASSESSMENT

PNGRCS – Towards a Sustainable and Ever-Ready Red Cross Red Crescent Actor

With the support of IFRC via its 2019 operational plan, PNGRCS has set a path to effectively deliver humanitarian services and fulfill its mandate as a volunteer aid society auxiliary to the government.

This plan focuses on holistic and integrated capacity-building through programmatic approaches in disaster risk reduction; shelter; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) accompanied by institutional strengthening as a catalyst to achieve their strategic goals.

STATISTICS

40% of the population lives below the poverty line (2010)

1.6 million people do not have access to basic health services

68% of women have experienced some or multiple forms of violence

26% increase in unemployment in 2016

AREA OF FOCUS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION CHF 40,000 REQUIRED

In its effort to build strong, resilient communities, PNGRCS must be well-equipped with necessary resources, skills, knowledge and tools for immediate response to disasters at any scale. This includes having well-trained staff and volunteers and improved systems in place to support critical business processes using relevant technology where applicable. Enhanced resource mobilization will enable faster and more predictable responses and the development of a sustainable model of peer support will ensure consistent progress.

SHELTER CHF 20,000 REQUIRED

Shelter as a basic need and a necessity for those communities displaced by disasters. To adequately ensure that PNGRCS is able to address this need, it will utilize IFRC’s Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) roll-out involving youth in selected communities. Target population in this area of focus is 10,000 people.

HEALTH CHF 110,000 REQUIRED

Health remains one of the key areas of focus to be strengthened. In this plan, PNGRCS will be enabled to cooperate with local authorities and community health service providers in promoting prevention measures through awareness and information dissemination.

- Certified First Aid trainers train at least one member in each household engaged with
- Epidemic Control for Volunteers and basic health training for volunteers
- Promotion of primary health care with community health facilities

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CHF 20,000 REQUIRED

The adoption of WASH direction under the 2017-2020 strategic plan as part of community resilience will strengthen PNGRCS’ WASH program via the following activities:

- Recruitment and training of 500 volunteers to engage them in delivering hygiene promotion
- Involve key community stakeholders such as media, churches, schools and other institutions with emphasis on hand washing with soap

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION CHF 10,000 REQUIRED

PNGRCS will be supported in its concerted effort to:

- Be active in awareness-raising campaigns to advocate the end of all forms of violence
- Provide relevant support to the people with special needs
- Promote gender equality as an integrated approach in community engagement

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES CHF 230,000 REQUIRED

PNGRCS will be supported to improve in matters of governance and management and to be a well-functioning National Society. Activities will include:

- Governance and management change process
- Assessment of human resource capacities
- Strengthen financial capabilities
- Ensuring management implementation of policies
- Prudent management and coordination of programmes and projects
- Development of branches through IFRC’s Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA)
- Workshops for PNGRCS’ National Council, headquarters’ managers, and branch leadership

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CHF 30,000 REQUIRED

IFRC to assist PNGRCS in its engagement with humanitarian coordination mechanisms in the country and to prepare a readiness plan in its response of disasters and emergencies. Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRTs) will be activated and deployed for every operation, either through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) or an Emergency Appeal.

INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS CHF 120,000 REQUIRED

Coordination and management of partnerships via a shared leadership approach is to be applied. PNGRCS will be supported to demonstrate their relevance as a revitalised National Society, restoring its integrity through constant and continued constructive support.

ENSURE A STRONG IFRC CHF 320,000 REQUIRED

IFRC reinforces its commitment to high accountability standards, amenability to key management performance indicators, full adherence to IFRC’s Fraud and Corruption Prevention and Control policy, strict concession to IFRC’s Prevention and Response of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policy, and the highest commitment to ensuring a safe and inclusive working environment with greater diversity and gender equality.

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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