



490,000

CHF
Funding requirement

20,000

People to be reached

9.725

Volunteers (combined)

3

National Societies

IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office

This plan outlines the support IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office will provide to the Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore National Societies. The three countries have different institutional needs and focus areas of support. Similarly, the level of risks and vulnerabilities vary. While in the case of Malaysia, the risks of floods are an annual problem with increasing traffic accidents and non-communicable diseases; Singapore faces risks that are associated to ageing and urban related emergencies such as fires and development planning issues; and in the case of Brunei, traffic accidents, non-communicable diseases are becoming substantial concerns. In all the three countries the inclusion of the One Billion Coalition for Resilience partnership platform will contribute to scale the capacities of the National Societies and participating members of the coalition to reach to more communities across the system.

Brunei: Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) is shifting from a volunteer-based organization to a National Society that will start creating a more formal structure to scale their activities by embarking on a strategic planning process which may enable it to benefit from some IFRC tools that lead to clearer risk and vulnerability identification. Focus of the National Society will remain on strengthening local volunteers' presence through its four branches to build deeper local credibility, sustainability and auxiliary understanding and support the vital public humanitarian services it offers to the communities.

Malaysia: Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) regularly engages in disaster response operations during monsoon and flash floods, mainly due to the northeast monsoon which prevails during the months of November to March, with heavy rains in the east coast states of the Peninsula, northern part of Sabah and southern part of Sarawak. Malaysia also faces another environmental challenge which causing both health and other consequences - the periodic intense haze. The haze, attributed to be a direct result of 'slash and burn' activities around the region, causes pollution levels to reach record highs. When the air pollutant index (API) reaches hazardous limits, it causes a chain reaction; schools closure, restriction to outdoor activities, flights delay or cancelled, disruption to visibility for vessels operation, and impact to respiratory health problems. It is imperative that MRCS to further strengthens its capacity in these core areas of expected deliverables.

Singapore: While Singapore scores high in the humanitarian development index, the country has its own challenges to address with regards to inequality and an ageing population. Singapore is often mentioned as having high performance in its economic competitiveness, rule of law and innovation-fostering environment. The country has an influencing voice across the Association of South East Nations (ASEAN) and beyond. In this context, Singapore Red Cross Society (SRC) has risen to a recognized level of excellency with regards to safety and first aid, social care programmes, youth and volunteer engagement and a growing role in international emergency response, most of time through bilateral modalities. The National Society is also known to foster thought-leadership on humanitarian and development issues, including through its annual humanitarian conference and has developed productive collaboration across the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement at large.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT



2014 floods in Malaysia – IFRC's response to Malaysian Red Crescent's preparedness and capacity building

The Malaysian 2014 floods was among the 2014 top ten countries of the highest number of people affected by natural disasters. It was the worst floods the country experienced since 2004 that impacted several states, with Kelantan being the worst affected. Overall, at least 541,000 people affected by the floods.

Since then IFRC has taken steps to scale up efforts aimed at holistic enhancement of the National Society's capacity as continuation of the December 2014 East Coast floods operation and continues the efforts to date. The support to MRCS in 2019 and 2020 will be in the key areas of organizational capacity development, international disaster management, partnerships, disaster risk reduction, shelter, livelihoods, health, WASH, protection, PGI, and migration.

STATISTICS

35% of deaths in Malaysia are of people below 60 years of age.

4% of economic loss vs expenditure to Brunei households caused by floods in 2016.

15% of Singapore's population in 2018 will be people aged 65 and above.

BRUNEI

CHF 32,000 REQUIRED

The focus of BDRCS' programmes at country level is under the overarching approach of strengthening resilience in targeted communities and in geographical areas affected by regular floods and disasters. The programme priorities are to strengthen capacities, management systems and service delivery in all four branches of the National Society. BDRCS proposed project is targeting its branch governance, life members, youth and branch level volunteer coordinators, through:

- acknowledging BDRCS leadership in areas of governmental advocacy and supporting evidence-based information and proposals through branch organizational capacity assessment (BOCA) and organizational capacity assessment and certification (OCAC) exercises;
- encouraging BDRCS with its domestic governmental and other partners to join the One Billion Coalition for Resilience and strengthening their work with the government to enhance BDRCS' auxiliary role in disaster risk reduction and health work particularly, increasing appreciation of the public humanitarian services; and
- strengthening BDRCS volunteer and youth mobilisation and retention strategies by addressing innovative approaches to activating volunteer interests.

MALAYSIA

CHF 439,000 REQUIRED

IFRC's support to MRCS in building the capacity of the National Society to contribute to the country's Eleventh Malaysia Plan 2016-2020 (11MP) – which is viewed as the country's final leg in its journey towards achieving Vision 2020 – Malaysia's own development targets and aspirations. This includes strengthening disaster risk management to reduce vulnerability and disaster preparedness, improving access to health, bridging income disparity, enhancing the participation of youth and women in development, promoting entrepreneurship, improving childcare, child protection and caring for the underprivileged, vulnerable, and people with disabilities and those with special needs. In this regard, IFRC will support MRCS to:

- building community resilience as an approach that integrates activities in various sectors – disaster risk reduction (DRR), shelter, livelihoods, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) and migration – utilizing relevant community-based programming models to address the underlying causes of vulnerability;
- enhancing its capacity to provide DRR, shelter, livelihoods, health, WASH and PGI services in emergencies;
- continue strengthening its volunteer base as well as mobilizing and engaging youth as agents of behavioural change, with a focus on school safety;
- undertaking evidence-based measures to strengthen organizational capacity at the national headquarters and branch levels;
- completing the construction and operationalization of its humanitarian field school, and;
- enhancing coordination with the public authorities and other stakeholders.

SINGAPORE

CHF 21,000 REQUIRED

SRC with support from IFRC will continue engaging key priorities that include youth development and innovation, training and peer-support in disaster management as well as targeted strategic partnership development. Joint engagement or shared leadership will focus on strategic engagement with ASEAN and through the One Billion Coalition for Resilience. SRC will also be a critical lead partner for South-South Cooperation. IFRC will guide SRC to engage in Federation-wide response efforts as part of regional and global tools including field assessment and coordination teams (FACT) and regional disaster response team (RDRT). SRC and IFRC will also pursue productive collaboration on thought leadership, through the humanitarian conference and lecture series organised by SRC, with a specific focus on SRC 70-year and IFRC 100-year anniversaries in 2019.

CONTACTS

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