Main challenges in the country

Yemen is the world’s largest humanitarian crisis. Yemen has been in armed conflict since March 2015, with devastating impact on the population. The on-going conflict has caused insecurity, severe economic decline and chronic under development that continue to widen the humanitarian crises in the country.

Some 22.2 million people, i.e. 75% of the population are in need of humanitarian assistance. 17.8 million people are food insecure and 8.4 million people do not know how they will obtain their next meal [1]. Conflict, protracted displacement, disease and deprivation continue to inflict suffering upon the country’s population. Well over 28,000 Yemenis have been either killed or injured since 2015. The UN has documented 9,500 civilian deaths’, the majority from airstrikes.

An estimated 2 million people have been displaced from their original communities, due to the conflict. The fighting in Al-Hudaydah in mid-2018 has caused massive displacement across 21 governorates. The
conflict has pushed people into poverty and deeply diminished people’s self-reliance and livelihoods. This has increased the poor population to 79% compared to 49% in 2017.

However, despite an extremely difficult operating environment, some 156 international and national partners have actively been coordinating to assist people with the most acute needs in priority districts across Yemen’s 22 governorates. Together they have assisted over 7.4 million people monthly with some form of humanitarian assistance. However, all organisations face movement restrictions of staff and supplies—worsening the situation for the Yemeni people. Overall humanitarian efforts to access affected populations of displaced and host populations remains a challenge. However, despite the challenges, the Yemen Red Crescent (YRCS) enjoys privileged access in most of the country and remains neutral and impartial to the conflict.

The role of the IFRC Country Office

Given the operational context in the country, the operational plan is developed around 6 overall key strategic priorities for the IFRC that have been agreed with YRCS and Movement partners. The strategic objectives address current needs in Yemen and are in line with the YRCS Strategic Plan 2016–2020, the IFRC 2018 Yemen Review [1] as well as the mandate and added value of IFRC in country.

**Strategic Priority No. 1**: Enable the YRCS to respond efficiently and effectively to humanitarian needs according to mandate. In particular:

1. Improving the National Society’s operational preparedness for emergency response and supporting its disaster management and strategic planning for recovery
2. Enabling the National Society to strengthen disaster risk reduction measures at community level
3. Improving capacity of YRCS health services, including ambulance services, and areas that would position YRCS as key actor in community health while building capacity of at all levels to improve performance

**Strategic Priority No. 2**: Improve and scale up existing IFRC support to the development and capacity building of YRCS through an increased and diversified funding portfolio.

**Strategic Priority No. 3**: Assume a complementary role in Movement coordination and promote shared leadership among Movement partners.
Strategic Priority No. 4: Strengthen advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy efforts.

Strategic Priority No. 5: Promote coordinated fundraising.

Strategic Priority No. 6: Promote a stronger positioning of YRCS’ and IFRC’s and the overall response in Yemen.

Sustainability: Supporting YRCS to reach all vulnerable populations and operate as auxiliary to the public authority, with communities through local level programmes and initiatives.

1. Capacity: Strengthening the capacity of YRCS, as well as community across financial, human and material resources, such as a DM capacity development plan and a logistics capacity development plan

2. Gender and diversity: Addressing the different needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, men, girls and boys of all ages efficiently and effectively

3. Integrated programming: Addressing multiple, interrelated needs and problems caused by protracted conflict through an integrated programming approach

Alignment with International mechanisms: Making alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Seville Agreement, SPHERE standards and HAP standard among others strengthening partnership for resource development: Strengthening partnership with ICRC, German Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, British Red Cross and Italian Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross.
National Society Profile

The YRCS was established in Yemen fifty years ago through a presidential decree to protect human dignity, save lives and promote the wellbeing of vulnerable people. It has 315 paid staff and 7,800 volunteers working in 39 units. Disaster Response and Health sectors comprise the bulk of the YRCS activities. As an independent, neutral and impartial organization, the mission of the National Society is to promote the overall wellbeing of vulnerable people by providing humanitarian and primary health care services and empower local communities in line with the following 5 strategic objectives outlined in the YRCS Strategic Plan 2016–2020:

1. **To establish and maintain governance systems**, policies and processes at all levels to prepare for and lead the organization to the next level: strengthening a culture of transparency, integrity, accountability and high ethical standards as well as ensuring that sound risk management systems and compliance mechanisms are in place to deal with complaints and to safeguard integrity.

2. **Capacity Building** with focus on strengthening services, staff and volunteers through branch development, volunteer and membership management, youth Red Crescent development, and human resource development.

3. **To work towards achieving long-term financial sustainability of YRCS**: developing international partnerships and increasing in country fundraising/ income generating activities.

4. **To improve the overall health status of the vulnerable people in the YRCS operational areas**: improve provision of primary health services through YRCS health clinics and community-based intervention, expand and professionalize ambulance services, and become the leading organization in planning, designing and delivering first aid programs in the country.

5. **To provide timely and effective humanitarian services to the people affected by natural and man-made disasters across the country**: In line with the YRCS 2019–2023 Disaster Management Strategy YRCS will focus on:
   a. Establish adequate logistics management systems and processes for provision of timely and effective response to disasters at all levels.
   b. Increase life-saving activities to reduce mortality and morbidity rates.
   c. Protect vulnerable people from abuses and link them to services available in the country including those provided by YRCS.
   d. Strengthen advocacy with the government.
   e. Strengthen community resilience and recovery.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Focus</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>88,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihoods and Basic Needs</td>
<td>50,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)</td>
<td>23,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection, Gender and Inclusion</td>
<td>66,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Country Acceleration Plan 2019 Yemen
Areas of Focus

- **30,000** people to be made resilient against disasters
- **88,000** people provided with shelter assistance
- **50,320** people will benefit from livelihoods and basic needs
- **180,000** people will benefit from health programs and services
- **23,500** people will access clean water, sanitation and hygiene promotion
- **66,000** people will benefit from psycho-social support
AREA OF FOCUS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The IFRC will continue the implementation of the Disaster Management Capacity Building (DMCB) Programme targeting the YRCS Headquarters and branches in Amran, Dhamar, Shabwa and Al-Mahara. In 2019 the programme will be extended with approximately 8,000 households in two more Governorates. The focus will be on preparedness, response, recovery and building resilience.

The IFRC will provide financial and technical support to the YRCS Headquarters in support of the overall disaster management capacity building and address the needs identified by the Disaster Management Capacity Assessment in 2017. The plan will be based on the YRCS DM Policy 2018 and the YRCS DM Strategy 2019–2023. Staff and volunteers, including the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT)/Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRTs) will be trained on YRCS 2018 Response Manual and SoPs.

The target branches will implement activities at branch and community level and work with the target communities and schools based on the findings of the 2018 Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) Report. Two additional branches will conduct VCA in the beginning of 2019 and activities will be designed in line with YRCS DM Strategy 2019–2013 and implemented accordingly.

BRANCHES PREPARED TO HAVE MULTI-HAZARD EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS 4
BRANCHES WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES 4
COMMUNITY CONTINGENCY PLANS IN PLACE 24
COMMUNITY EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS ESTABLISHED OR IMPROVED AND LINKED WITH LOCAL OR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SYSTEMS 12
PEOPLE TO BE REACHED BY THE RED CROSS AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS USING HARMONIZED MESSAGES TO REDUCE, MITIGATE AND RESPOND TO IDENTIFIED RISKS 168
AREA OF FOCUS

SHELTER

Considering the huge number of people in need of emergency shelter (estimated 5.4 million IDPs, host communities and returnees) and/or essential household items, the IFRC will attempt to increase the support to YRCS with standard non-food items (NFIs), including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and family hygiene kits etc. The distribution will be based on assessments made by YRCS Headquarters and branches and targeted at the most vulnerable populations in communities affected by conflict and natural disasters.

The IFRC will provide technical support to YRCS in terms of training of volunteers, deployment of NDRT and BDRTs as well as procurement and distribution of NFIs. The IFRC will ensure replenishment of stock at YRCS Headquarters and branches in preparedness for response to upcoming needs. Support will also be provided for the construction and equipment of two warehouses for the branches in Shabwa and Al Mahara Governorates. This will increase YRCS capacity to preposition more relief items for emerging disasters and crisis.

PEOPLE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH SAFE, ADEQUATE, AND DURABLE RECOVERY SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE

77,000

HOUSEHOLDS PROVIDED WITH HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ASSISTANCE

11,000
AREA OF FOCUS

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

A food security survey will be conducted among the communities identified in the 2018 VCA in Amran, Dhamar, Shabwa and Al Mahara. IFRC will target up to 6,000 of the most vulnerable and food insecure households among the IDPs and host communities in the 4 governorates.

TARGETED POPULATION THAT WILL STABILIZE THEIR NET INCOME THROUGH SKILL BUILDING, IMPROVED ASSETS, MICRO-FINANCE SUPPORT, JOB CREATION.

TARGETED HOUSEHOLDS THAT WILL HAVE ENOUGH FOOD, CASH, INCOMES TO MEET THEIR SURVIVAL THRESHOLD

PEOPLE TO BE SUPPORTED WITH IN-KIND ASSETS OR CASH OR VOUCHERS FOR RECOVERING OR STARTING/ STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

872,000 SWISS FRANCS SOUGHT

160

6,000

160
A core group of YRCS Headquarters and branch staff and will be trained on sustainable livelihoods and cash transfer planning. Based on the capacity building of the YRCS in 2018 and the 2019 training, a multipurpose cash-grant pilot scheme for livelihoods development will be developed targeting 160 women. Given the challenging context in Yemen, the IFRC will adopt the most efficient and effective approaches for cash transfer programming and promote sustainable livelihoods adapted to the local context. There will be periodic review of the project along with participants, and lessons learnt from the planned initiatives will be considered for knowledge and skills transfer in future projects.
AREA OF FOCUS

HEALTH

The IFRC will support the YRCS in strengthening its organizational capacity to provide timely, high quality, efficient and effective health services in 6 governorates and 12 districts targeting both IDPs and host communities. The IFRC will focus its support on the primary health and community-based health and care services of the National Society as well as its preparedness for response to health in emergencies. These strategic priority areas are in line with the YRCS Health Strategy 2016–2020, Strategic Aim 2 of the IFRC Strategy 2020, the IFRC Regional Health and WASH Priorities and the current needs in the country. IFRC will also support the salaries and capacity building of both YRCS Headquarter and branch staff.

Primary health care services: IFRC will continue to strengthen YRCS health facilities through support of medical equipment, providing running costs, essential medicines and outreach activities. These services are provided through a network of 12 YRCS Primary Health Clinics with an increasing caseload. In 2019, the IFRC support will focus on strengthening the delivery of timely and high-quality primary health care services in 6 YRCS Primary Health Clinics following the Ministry of Health (MoH) Standards for Minimum Package of Essential Services and to augment the supply of life-saving drugs for chronically ill patients through MOH tertiary and specialized care facilities.

Community health and care: YRCS Community health and care activities will be implemented using the IFRC Community Based Health First Aid (CBHFA) approach and linked to the primary health care services. Volunteers will receive refresher trainings on e-CBHFA and engaged in their respective communities to identify, reduce and manage priority health risks and concerns. Community level trainings for involving IDPs and host communities will also be conducted. Volunteers will be supported with first aid and IEC materials for community level health promotion activities with focus on maternal and child health, nutrition, awareness on infectious diseases and preventative care. Where possible CBHFA activities will be integrated onto ongoing community-based risk reduction interventions and specialised sessions on health risk reduction measures will be organised for organized community groups. First aid trainings in schools and communities will continue and community psychosocial support activities will be introduced. Current First Aid Trainers will receive advanced first aid training and be equipped with updated training materials and equipment for effective training. Key health messages will also be disseminated through radio and television. Community volunteers will be organised in branches to provide first aid, disseminate, refer and report on emergencies and potential public health threats. First aid training in schools will be scaled up. School Junior Red Crescent Volunteer Groups will be established, trained and equipped and linked to the respective YRCS Branch and receive support according to the YRCS Volunteer Development Plan.

Preparedness and emergency health response: The YRCS emergency health activities include epidemic control, emergency health response, first aid and ambulance services as well as psychosocial support in emergencies.
1. Emergency health response: These above areas of interventions will be strengthened further by developing a YRCS Emergency Health Response Strategy and linked to YRCS Disaster Management Strategy 2019–2023 and the YRCS Disaster Response Manual and Standard Operating procedures. Core health staff from YRCS health facilities, headquarters and branches will receive advanced emergency health training. A YRCS Emergency Health Team will be established and become part of the of the YRCS National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) currently under establishment. The team will take part in YRCS and inter-agency assessment and provide health services in emergencies, including first aid, health promotion maternal and child health care, psychosocial support, etc.

2. Epidemic control: As part of the overall CBHFA approach, Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) trainings focusing on Cholera and other potential infectious diseases will be provided to volunteers. Focus will be put on community level epidemic preparedness and response in high risk IDP and host communities. As part of the YRCS approach to cholera prevention and control, IFRC will support Oral Rehydration Points (ORPs), train volunteers and provide equipment. Furthermore, ensure that proper referral mechanisms are in place for people in need of specialized treatment. Finally, IFRC will support the prepositioning of stocks, including the procurement of Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK), hygiene kits, water purification tablets and oral rehydration kits.

3. First aid response and ambulance services: IFRC will assist YRCS in ensuring that all preconditions for a safe and professional operation of ambulance services are met. The operation of ambulance services in 13 governorates will be supported with ambulances, equipment and running costs. New ambulances will be allocated to branches with high demand in terms of transportation of injured, wounded and chronically ill patients. An allocation mechanism will be established to ensure that branches are equipped to meet the prevailing needs at any given time, notably in conflict areas. In addition, the capacity of first aid responders and ambulance teams will be strengthened through advanced training (para-medical level) and SoPs and training manuals will be developed. Technical expertise will be requested from other National Societies. The capacity of first aid responders and ambulance teams will be strengthened through advanced training (para-medical level). Advanced first aid training will be developed, and trainings conducted at branch level and equipped using updated training equipment and materials.

PEOPLE TO BE REACHED BY NS FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

176,868

CBHFA PLANS DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS

12

PEOPLE TO BE REACHED BY NS WITH SERVICES TO REDUCE RELEVANT HEALTH RISKS FACTORS

3,600
Psychosocial Support: The IFRC will integrate psychosocial and mental health activities in community health activities and emergency response. In collaboration with Danish Red Cross, IFRC will facilitate training of volunteers in psychological first aid and initiate psychosocial support activities in IDP and host communities. Psychosocial support is also an integral part of the approach to caring for volunteers and will be carried out in coordination with Danish Red Cross.

IFRC and the YRCS Health Team will continue to participate in health, WASH and protection cluster meetings and actively engage in coordination, information exchange and advocacy. IFRC will strengthen the country level collaboration in line with the global agreements with WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA in the areas of reproductive health, emergency health response, maternal and child health and WASH.

The IFRC and YRCS health team will actively engage with and capitalise on the expertise of the IFRC Reference Centres, the IFRC Global First Aid Network, the MENA and Geneva Health & WASH teams.

The IFRC will facilitate health coordination meetings with Movement partners to ensure efficient and effective collaboration and support to the YRCS Health Department. Field monitoring will be prioritized and the YRCS Health department will be supported in their strategy development, annual Health planning, programme reviews etc.
AREA OF FOCUS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Access to safe water has become a major challenge and the lack of proper sanitation and hygiene services has increased the risk of communicable and infectious diseases such as acute watery diarrhea (AWD), hepatitis and scabies. The damage to water and sewerage systems has affected around 58% of the population and 16 million people are now without access to safe water supply and basic sanitation. 73% (20.1 million people) are without access to piped drinking water.

IFRC will scale up the WASH intervention in 2019 by providing technical and financial support to YRCS based on 2018 and 2019 assessment findings and incorporate gender and diversity considerations in the implementation of activities. Focus will be put on 8 governorates and notably cholera affected communities in a response to the increased risk of cholera transmission in the country. Access to safe and sustainable water supplies, sanitation and hygiene facilities as well as hygiene promotion will be supported with both hardware and software response activities. IFRC will also support the salaries and capacity building of both YRCS Headquarter and branch staff.

1. Community-based WASH: Based on the initial assessments, the support will target cholera affected IDP and host communities. Rehabilitation/installation of appropriate permanent water and sanitation facilities is a key priority. Community water users will be formed and trained on water treatment, repair and maintenance. Community volunteers will be trained to mobilize communities and conduct campaigns on hygiene promotion and zero open defecation practices.

2. Emergency WASH: Rapid WASH assessments will be conducted to determine WASH needs in IDP communities. Installation of water points for the distribution of water to IDP communities through water trucking schemes will continue. Hygiene kits, water containers and water purification tablets will be distributed on connection with community awareness sessions on hygiene, proper water storage and treatment. Provision of sanitation facilities for IDPs and repair of water points to access safe water will also be supported. Community consultations and engagement in the preparation, construction and maintenance of communal water and sanitation facilities is an integral part of the overall IFRC approach to WASH. Community volunteers trained on hygiene promotion will continue regular WASH monitoring visits YRCS branch technical staff.
The IFRC and YRCS WASH team will actively engage with and capitalize on the expertise of the MENA regional office and Geneva WASH teams. IFRC will facilitate WASH coordination meetings with Movement partners to ensure efficient and effective collaboration and support to the YRCS Health Department.

Field monitoring of WASH activities will be prioritized and the YRCS Health department will be supported in their strategy development, annual planning, programme reviews, etc.

**TARGET COMMUNITIES USING APPROPRIATE AND SUSTAINABLE WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE SERVICES IN HUMANITARIAN, RECOVERY OF DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

- 30% HOUSEHOLDS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH SAFE WATER SERVICES THAT MEET AGREED STANDARDS ACCORDING TO SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL AND PROGRAMMATIC CONTEXT
- 5,000 COMMUNITY BASED WATER AND SANITATION MANAGEMENT PLANS DEVELOPED
- 18,519 HOUSEHOLDS REACHED WITH KEY MESSAGES TO PROMOTE PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY HYGIENE
AREA OF FOCUS

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION

Over 3 million people have been displaced from their homes during the conflict and Yemen is now considered one of the world’s largest protection crises. About 12.9 million people need assistance to protect their safety, dignity or basic rights, from violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), grave violations of children’s rights and gender-based violence. Women and children constitute three quarters of the internally displaced and are particularly vulnerable. 52% of the displaced live in women-headed households. Displaced school-aged children face a grim future, as they are at higher risk. Boys face higher risk of recruitment by armed groups, while girls face higher risk of being held back from school and forced to marry. The numbers of under-age marriage have escalated dramatically since 2016. Around 2.6 million women and girls are at risk of gender-based violence and 52,000 women at risk of sexual violence including rape as a result of the humanitarian crises in the country.

IFRC will address the different needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, men, girls and boys of all ages and gender. Appropriate approaches will be implemented to ensure mainstreaming of gender in all YRCS interventions and as women in Yemen constitute more than half of society, they will be given specific attention in the 2019 Plan. Children will be targeted by all services provided by YRCS including health services and psychological support initiatives to embrace those traumatized by the armed conflict and indiscriminate airstrikes.
Training courses will be conducted for YRCS staff at Headquarters, and branches as well as target communities. Guidelines for the prevention of gender-based discrimination and violence will be disseminated to all YRCS staff and volunteers. The IFRC Minimum Standard Commitment to Gender and Diversity in Emergency Response will be introduced to YRCS and orientations will be provided to YRCS staff and volunteers.

The Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) Framework will be adopted in all phases of the YRCS projects/programmes. Importantly, monitoring and reporting tools and indicators will ensure inclusion of information regarding gender and protection. Participation of women will be encouraged in the community management committees, and user friendly tools and mechanisms will be designed for feedback and complaint mechanisms to improve services.
STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

Strengthening of YRCS organizational programme management capacity in line with the YRCS Strategic Plan 2016–2020. The IFRC will increase its efforts to develop the organisational capacity of YRCS to scale up programmes and services and improve quality of performance, including transparency and accountability. The following will be the focus of YRCS capacity building:

1. Improving the National Society’s operational preparedness for emergency response and support its disaster management and strategic planning for recovery.

2. Enabling the National Society to strengthen disaster risk reduction measures at community level

3. Building YRCS capacity to be a cash-ready National Society through a cash preparedness initiative

4. Improving capacity in YRCS health services, including ambulance services

5. Promote and design proper mechanisms for volunteers’ motivation and retention

6. Ensure that YRCS is widely known in Yemen and is recognized as a credible, trustworthy and effective partner in design and delivery of humanitarian services

The 2019 plan aims to enhance physical and institutional capacities of the National Society in terms of buildings, equipment, human resources, and volunteers. In addition, the IFRC will support YRCS to develop/update policies, strategy, system, structure, manuals and guidelines and roll out the YRCS 2019–2023 Disaster Management Strategy and the 2018 Disaster Response Manual and SOPs.

The armed conflict has resulted in collateral damage of YRCS HQ and branches and warehouses therefore support will be provided to rehabilitate and upgrade existing infrastructure and capacity. Likewise, YRCS health facilities will be supported with medical equipment and power backup, and ambulances to transport the wounded. Support to warehouse construction as well as upgrading safety and security of YRCS premises will also be provided, including structural improvements.

In support of strengthening the YRCS capacity in preparedness for effective response (PER), a significant focus will be placed on improving and enhancing the existing capacities of the National Society considering a multi-hazard approach. The Disaster Management Capacity Building Programme will prepare for the roll out of the PER capacity strengthening approach, process,
and methods. In addition, the programme will increase support to capacity in the areas of emergency response, warehousing, logistics and procurement.

The cash preparedness initiative will support YRCS to develop its capacity to deliver cash across all phases of response (emergency, recovery and development). The cash preparedness initiative will begin with the cash preparedness self-assessment workshop that establishes a baseline for the NS capacity building and a plan for further action. The focus will be on building the NS capacity on cash transfer programming and development systems, processes and procedures.

Finally, YRCS structures, systems and processes will be developed within human resources, planning, governance, management, image, finance development, and accountability.
ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The IFRC, along with YRCS and other Movement partners, will continue to maintain coordination and task force meetings to ensure coordinated efforts among Movement partners. The IFRC will also support YRCS in leading these meetings. The IFRC will continue its participation in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Yemen as an observer. The IFRC will also support the YRCS when participating in cluster meetings. Furthermore, IFRC will continue providing technical support to YRCS Headquarters and branches to activities implemented as a response to disasters as well as with activities to ensure compliance with the principle and roles of the humanitarian assistance. IFRC will provide support to YRCS to deliver assistance to the most vulnerable and ensure accountability of the assistance provided. IFRC will present and promote National Society flagship activities and capacities such as the strength of its volunteer network to position the YRCS among international partners such as UN agencies, INGOs and donors. Advocacy efforts will also include obtaining tax exemptions on humanitarian items and secure transportation of those items.

OUTCOME

NATIONAL SOCIETY HAS THE NECESSARY LEGAL, ETHICAL AND FINANCIAL FOUNDATIONS, SYSTEMS AND STRUCTURES, COMPETENCES AND CAPACITIES TO PLAN AND PERFORM.

INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The IFRC Yemen country office will support YRCS to strengthen its internal and external communications, including risk communications, and promotion of humanitarian principles and values. IFRC will also support YRCS to manage community engagement and accountability measures and represent the voice and needs of the most vulnerable in humanitarian fora. Support will be provided to YRCS to develop its fundraising capacity.
Given the contextual complexities and to ensure proper coordination among partners and a clear division of roles and responsibilities, IFRC has developed a brief strategy that will guide its work until 2020. The strategic objectives address current needs in Yemen and are in line with the YRCS Strategic Plan 2016–2020, the IFRC 2018 Yemen Review as well as the mandate and added value of IFRC in country. The following 5 overall key strategic priorities for the IFRC that have been agreed with YRCS and Movement partners.

**Strategic Priority No. 1:** Enable the YRCS to respond efficiently and effectively to humanitarian needs according to mandate.

**Strategic Priority No. 2:** Improve and scale up existing IFRC support to the development and capacity building of YRCS through and increase and diversified funding portfolio.

**Strategic Priority No. 3:** Assume a complementary role in Movement coordination and promote shared leadership among Movement partners.

**Strategic Priority No. 4:** Strengthen advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy efforts.

**Strategic Priority No. 5:** Promote a stronger positioning of YRCS’ and IFRC’s and the overall response in Yemen.

The IFRC will have additional focus on:

1. HR System, including periodic appraisal, for personal and professional development that result in to efficient and effective performance
2. Ensuring compliance of the IFRC and YRCS staff with financial rules and regulations, including transparency, accountability, commitment to the policy of fraud and corruption and Community Engagement and Accountability
3. Upgrade workplace safety and security situation in line with the Minimum-Security Requirements
Contact information of the IFRC Country office, for partners who wish to find out more

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