



Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) IRAN: Sistan- Baluchestan Floods



DREF Operation n°	MDRIR003	Glide n°:	FF-2020-000006-IRN
Date of issue:	21 January 2020	Expected timeframe:	4 months
		Expected end date:	31 May 2020
Category allocated to the of the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: CHF 499,874			
Total number of people affected:	196,140	Number of people to be assisted:	25,000 (5,000 HHs)
Provinces affected:	3	Provinces targeted:	1
Host National Society presence: The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) has approximately 2 million volunteers, 10,000 staff and 400 branches across the country.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Iran, Local NGOs, UN Agencies			

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Torrential rain, from 10 till 12 January has triggered floods in southeast part of the country, Sistan and Baluchistan, leaving casualties and severe and widespread damages to infrastructures and assets of the inhabitant community in the province.

Iranian Students' News Agency (ISNA) quoted Meteorological Organization that the maximum rainfall was reported at 186 mm from Nikshahr County, while the average annual rainfall is 113 mm in the province; also, Iranian News Agency (IRNA) wrote that as the record-breaking precipitation was 26 times more than last year, the province was affected in the most severe way.

The flood streams ran over 15 districts (Iranshahr, Chabahar, Khash, Delgan, Zahedan, Sarbaz, Saravan, Sib and Sooran, fonooj, Kenarak, Mehrestan, Zahak, Mirjaveh, Nikshar and Hirmand) in the province, causing massive impacts; electricity was cut off in 877 villages, 875 routes among cities and rural areas were blocked off, 245 network irrigation canals were damaged in villages, telecommunication faced connecting issues, and houses and agricultural infrastructure were washed away and the level of water in dams reported being rising by heavy rains that could lead to flooding.

The floods, also, left fatality; two persons reported losing their lives (due to being drowned and hit by falling debris) and many houses and vehicles were overflowed.

Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) responded to the disaster from the very beginning possible time. In response to the impact of the floods in the province, inhabitants of 6 villages with total population of 245 families were evacuated. 12 injured persons, as well as 7 pregnant women have been transported to the medical centres and 69 persons have been saved and rescued from river flood. Also, 195 houses have been drained water off and 8 vehicles were towed from water flood.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society Response Action

The IRCS was established in 1922 (as the 'Red Lion and Sun Society') and became affiliated with the IFRC in 1924. It has over 10,000 staff and some two million volunteers, being structured in the Youth Organization, the Volunteers Organization and the Relief & Rescue Organization. IRCS has 400 local branches across the country. The National Society has strong auxiliary link to Government and is mandated, under the Law on Emergency Operations, to conduct Search & Rescue activities, Relief Services and to provide Emergency Shelter. In addition, the IRCS is responsible for raising public awareness on disasters, including the provision of related educational activities.

Since the immediate onset of the disaster, IRCS deployed 404 relief teams (1,953 relief workers) to 933 affected cities and villages, successfully provided relief services to 91,974 individuals (20,837 families) and provided shelter to 11,988 displaced people due to partial/full damages to their houses and household items. Contingency emergency sheltering camps are established in Konarak, Fanoj and Ghasrghand district to shelter the affected communities in case of any unpredictable situation.

IRCS distributed relief items to address the arising needs of the flood affected areas. These items include:

Tents	Blankets	Ground Sheet	Kerosene Lamps	Covering Plastic/ kg	Sugar/ packs	Canned Food	Rice/ kg	Beans/ packs	Packages of Food (Seventy-Two Hours Packages)
2,520	11,106	5,134	1,006	7,399	3,132	14,731	6,864	2,045	17,219



Figure 1. Activation of IRCS helicopters and relief teams. Credit: IRCS

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

The IFRC has a presence in Iran since 1991 and has been providing technical support in Capacity Building initiatives and Disaster Management, Shelter, Disaster Law, Youth and Health. There is no partner National Societies (PNS) present in the country, however IRCS has a memorandum of understanding with a number of PNS. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a delegation based in Tehran with various number of humanitarian activities in cooperation with the IRCS and is on standby to support the IRCS operation (e.g. through RFL). Movement partners are in regular coordination especially during the emergencies in the country.

Overview of non-RCRC actors' actions in country

Efforts of Ministries, local authorities, national NGOs and the IRCS are coordinated by the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO), with 14 standardized sectoral working groups established. IRCS convenes the 'Relief, Rescue and Emergency Shelter Working Group', and participates in another four working groups. Sectoral working groups apart from the aforementioned allocated to IRCS are led and activities widely implemented by line ministries supported by non-governmental actors. The Iranian army, police, local NGOs and governmental bodies and institutions are engaged in the ongoing operation. IRCS has a permanent liaison person located within the NDMO. Coordination and cooperation amongst agencies and local on local level is working well, with e.g. camps being managed by IRCS, health in the camps being taken care of by the Ministry of Health, WASH infrastructure provided from the Ministry of Energy, and local NGO supporting with food and social activities.

The floods have triggered an immediate response from local communities across the country; Iranians show solidarity, providing manifold activities to support the affected people. The flood response in Iran is implemented by national and local actors, providing an example of localized response. A wide range of UN agencies are present in-country, including FAO, IOM, UNOCHA, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO. INGOs have limited presence in country, with Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Relief International (RI) present in country.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

IRCS, in coordination with local authorities, conducted 24-hour and 72-hour assessments in the affected districts and branches to identify the immediate needs and priorities using helicopters, boats, and vehicles.

The initial assessments carried out in the areas show that food items, tent, blanket, ground sheet and kerosene lamp are among the eminent needs of the flood affected people. Houses flooded with water led to damage of most of house-hold items, in addition to cut of electricity.

Under this DREF operation, the IRCS aims to ensure effective continuation of the relief operations, specifically for Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and provision of Non-Food Items (NFIs) for the most vulnerable people.

This DREF will address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable affected families based on cash distributions, in addition to the replenishment of blankets that have been distributed to the affected people.

Targeting

IRCS has prioritised the most vulnerable 3,000 households amongst affected populations in the affected districts within Sistan- Baluchestan province through cash assistance. The selection will be carried out in close coordination with the local authorities. Priority is given to the displaced people by the floods who are living in evacuation centres and affected people returning to their homes.

The below table shows a snapshot of numbers in the affected areas of Sistan-Balouchestan province:

Districts	Number of Villages	Number of Affected Families	Number of Affected People
Chabahar	109	11,251	56,255
Iranshahr	20	800	4,800
Konarak	21	1,473	6,629
Fanouj	90	13,800	43,600
Delgan	38	6,166	30,600
Nikshahr	47	3,900	19,500
Zahedan	34	823	3,704
Mehrestan	23	380	1,983
Saravan	8	117	644
Khash	27	300	2,168
Mirjaveh	17	149	671
Sarbaz	8	69	311
Total	442	39,228	170,865

Scenario planning

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
Most likely additional flood risk will reduce, and water levels will recede.	Improved accessibility to affected people	IRCS will maintain their response operations with a scale up to affected areas being accessible.
Less likely the rain intensity will increase causing more floods, specifically in affected areas, leading to a greater impact, and an increased risk on flooding of dams.	More people will be affected requiring additional needs and possible evacuation. Increase in accessibility restrictions.	IRCS put the search and rescue/relief teams on standby and activated the EOC in provinces to closely monitor the situation.

Operation Risk Assessment

There are constraints in the affected areas due to blocked roads and landslips. Some areas are still cut off due to floodwaters and can only be reached by air. In the unlikely case of prolonged unreachability of these areas, cash programming may be delayed, with an extended period of support with in-kind supplies.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective of this operation is to ensure appropriate assistance for 3,000 households (15,000 people) affected by floods in the province of Sistan-Baluchestan in a timely, effective, and efficient manner, providing them with support to meet their basic needs through unconditional cash grants. In parallel, material preparedness for the ongoing operation / other emergencies is reinforced by replenishing depleted shelter emergency stocks, specifically blankets.

Proposed Strategy

Shelter:

The IRCS has been mandated by the Government to respond to the emergency needs of the affected populations in providing rescue and relief support. With IRCS teams and branches responding in all affected areas since day one, the focus has been on the most vulnerable province of Sistan-Baluchestan. In addition to providing emergency camps, IRCS distributed shelter items including tents, blankets, ground sheets and kerosene lamps. This DREF aims to replenish IRCS stocks for medium-thermal blankets (25,000), to complement IRCS contingency stocks for the ongoing

operation and future responses. Up till 20 January, IRCS has distributed around 12,000 blankets and based on their response estimates for affected people, it is expected to reach a total of around 25,000 (average of 5,000 HHs of 5 members).

Livelihoods and Basic Needs:

IRCS began using cash as response option in 2004 in response to the Bam Earthquake (with support from British Red Cross). Since then, the Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) has been included in IRCS operational responses. In the recent Kermanshah earthquake and floods 2019 response operation, CVA was also used to provide help to the vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, disabled persons and families with infants. Cash assistance within the current operation will be harmonized with support provided by other agencies including government authorities (e.g. Ministries of Health, Housing and Social Wellbeing). The selection of benefitting families will be based on agreed vulnerability criteria:

- The affected population of Sistan- Baluchestan province;
- People with severely or completely damaged houses;
- Displaced people by the floods;
- Households headed by women, i.e. widows, divorced or separated women without income;
- Households with person(s) living with disabilities and other socially excluded / marginalized groups;
- Households with insufficient coping mechanisms;
- Households from vulnerable occupational groups.

The IRCS will provide one off unconditional unrestricted cash grants to the most vulnerable families (3,000), so that families can utilize the money based on their needs. IRCS will undertake a rapid market assessment to ensure that markets are functional and that essential items are available. Cash will be transferred to the recipient's bank accounts, as all Iranian citizens have identification and bank accounts.

Operational support services:

IRCS will cover all related operational costs and expenses (such as logistics, human resources, volunteer-related expenses).

Human resources

IRCS has deployed about 2,000 volunteers and staff to support the flood response. These volunteers are insured under a national scheme.

Administration and Finance

Operational expenses such as volunteer accommodation, transportation, communication and coordination activities, will be covered by the IRCS. Finance and administration support to the operation will be provided by IRCS Headquarters, with assistance from IFRC MENA Regional Office administration and finance team, when required.

Logistics and Supply chain

Logistics for the CVA component will include the bank transfers to the recipient affected households via national banks. The IRCS has necessary financial transfer mechanisms in place to ensure timely cash transfers to the targeted families including signed pre-agreement with banks.

Procurement of HHs items for replenishment has been designed for international procurement, in accordance to the Federation standards and requirements. The MENA Regional Logistics Unit will facilitate the procurement process while is in contact with the IRCS / IFRC's Country Office to support as required.

Communication

The IRCS has a strong Public Relations Department which will lead the communications in this operation. Since the onset of the floods, IRCS has been disseminating daily information for public awareness and information via their social media platforms (twitter, Instagram and the IRCS website). The National Society owns a TV station and a newspaper, both disseminated nationwide.

The IFRC MENA regional head of communications will provide additional support throughout the operation if required.

Security

Demonstrations as well as US-Iran tensions have increased concerns on IFRC personnel safety and security. The Sistan & Baluchestan Province borders Afghanistan and Pakistan are prone to cross-border smuggling and trafficking of goods with exposure to criminal elements. Personnel are recommended to monitor developments closely and exercise caution when moving; to stay abreast of and avoid public gatherings; and to ensure they have access to reliable back-up methods of communication.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

The IRCS PMER reporting unit is currently embedded in the IRCS EOC. IRCS PMER will be responsible for day-to-day monitoring of the implementation of this emergency operation. The IRCS operation monitoring teams at branch level will conduct field monitoring visits regularly and when required.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe with a final report issued within three months after the end of the operation.

Technical PMER capacity and technical support will be provided through IFRC MENA Regional office PMER team. This will help identify and, where possible and necessary, resolve any issues. An end-of-operation evaluation will take place to capture relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the operation. It will also be used to measure qualitative outcome indicators.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Community feedback mechanism are set up by IRCS and will be enhanced through this operation with support from IFRC. The NS already is conducting post-distribution monitoring (PDM) for the provision of relief. The IRCS Treasury General, who is responsible for the outcomes of the PDMs as well as the complaints received through the complaint's mechanism.

The CEA framework will help prevent and address misinformation and rumours especially in relation to the distribution of relief items and cash assistance through the development of appropriate feedback systems.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Shelter

People targeted: 25,000 (5,000 HHs)
 Requirements (CHF): 148,424

Needs analysis: A large number of floods affected people have lost most of their household effects with their houses totally or partially damaged. Displaced people have been in need of emergency shelter and HH items. IRCS as the primary actor in the emergency relief phase, has responded to the flood affected people by providing emergency shelter and HH items, including (till date) 2,520 tents, 11,106 blankets, 5,134 ground sheet, and 1,006 kerosene lamps, 7,399 kg covering plastic. Iran is vulnerable to various disasters, including earthquakes, floods and landslides. Therefore, IRCS will be supported to continue their ongoing / future relief operations through partial replenishment of IRCS stocks for blankets to restock IRCS contingency storage. The number of items to be procured is based on total estimation of blankets distributed (25,000).

Population to be assisted: The partial replenishment will cover around 5,000 HHs.

Programme standards/benchmarks: Sphere / national standards are observed. Procurement of HH items will be done based on international procurement and in accordance to Federation standards and requirements.

P&B Output Code	Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions	# of targeted people with safe and adequate shelter and settlements (Target: 5,000HHs)								
	Shelter Output 1.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households	# households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance (Target: 5,000HHs)								
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
AP005	Assessment of shelter needs	X	X	X	X					
AP005	Partial replenishment of shelter and household items distributed to the affected population (25,000 blankets)	X	X	X	X					



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 15,000 (3,000 HHs)

Requirements (CHF): 319,500

Needs analysis: Loss of property and livelihoods are disrupting people’s lives. Imminent needs were met by the emergency response operations, yet the affected people still require many basic goods such as food, stocks, clothes, home appliances, school items, etc. Provision of unconditional and unrestricted/multipurpose cash to the affected population will have multiple effects enabling them to cover existing basic and diverse needs on household level, have a positive effect on local economy, and contribute to re-establishing market dynamics.

Population to be assisted: 3,000 HHs (15,000 individuals) will receive one-off unconditional and unrestricted/multipurpose cash grants in the amount of 100 CHF via bank transfer to meet their basic needs. Beneficiaries will be selected upon the following criteria:

- The affected population of Sistan- Baluchestan province;
- Displaced people by the floods;
- People with severely or completely damaged houses;
- Households headed by women, i.e. widows, divorced or separated women without income;
- Households with person(s) living with disabilities and other socially excluded / marginalized groups;
- Households with insufficient coping mechanisms;
- Households from vulnerable occupational groups.

A preliminary list of beneficiaries will be developed and provided by local governmental authorities. The beneficiary verification and validation process will be conducted in close coordination with the IRCS HQ. The number of criteria matches will set the vulnerability of a household.

Programme standards/benchmarks:

The transfer amount of 100 CHF has been set to top-up existing governmental social subsidies to the most vulnerable and poor families and met country household income and expenditure standards (HIES), thereby providing supplementary means to cover essential needs for one month.¹

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	<i># of households provided with unconditional / multipurpose cash grants and able to cover their monthly basic needs (Target: 3,000 HHs)</i>
----------------------------	---	---

¹ According to the Statistical Center of Iran the average HH food expenditures in urban and rural settings amounts to IRR 5,968,917 per a family of four / month (CHF 142).

	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs	# of households provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants (Target: 3,000 HHs)								
		Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
AP081	Rapid Market Assessment	X								
AP081	Development of preliminary cash grants recipients lists on provincial level (close collaboration with governmental structures)		X	X						
AP081	Unconditional / multipurpose cash distributions for 3,000 HHs in target province via bank transfer			X	X					
AP081	Post Distribution Monitoring including market monitoring				X					

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 31,950

The response to the floods operations is demonstrating both capacities and limitations of IRCS branches involved; some areas demands scaling up of technical knowledge, integration of further components, or increased awareness towards potential needs. The appeal aims at complementing the response activities already implemented by the NS. Capacity development thereby focuses on cash-based intervention (CBI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). IFRC's technical expertise will be used to support the NS with focus on standardization and quality enhancement of related activities.

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform (This Strategy for Implementation should not be included in a DREF operation plan of action)									
		Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place		# of IRCS staff and Volunteers trained on CBI and CEA (Target: 20)						
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
AP042	Training for IRCS staff and volunteers on CEA and CBI activity		X	X						

P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured	Effective and coordinated international disaster response ensured. (Target: Yes)
	Output S2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained	# of surge members deployed (Target: 2) # of surge missions (Target: 2)

Activities planned		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Month										
AP046	Surge deployment to support the DREF operation	X	X	X	X					

P&B Output Code	Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.	# of PMER monitoring visits (Target: 1 visit) # of evaluations conducted (Target: 1 evaluation)								
	Activities planned	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Month										
AP055	Work on assessments, monitoring and evaluation activities	X	X	X	X					
AP055	End-of-Operation Evaluation (including outcome measurement/verification)				X					
P&B Output Code	Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders	# of overdue financial reports (Target: 0 report)								
	Activities planned	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Month										
AP064	Finance work	X	X	X	X					
AP065	Administration work	X	X	X	X					

Funding Requirements

DREF OPERATION

MDRIR003 - IRAN – Sistan-Baluchestan

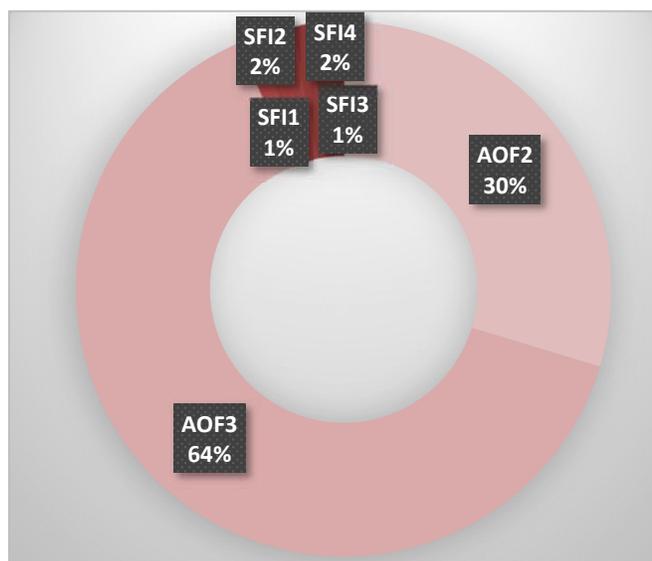
01/20/2020

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	110,250
Cash Disbursement	300,000
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	410,250
Distribution & Monitoring	29,115
Logistics, Transport & Storage	29,115
National Staff	10,000
Personnel	10,000
Workshops & Training	5,000
Workshops & Training	5,000
Travel	15,000
General Expenditure	15,000
DIRECT COSTS	469,365
INDIRECT COSTS	30,509
TOTAL BUDGET	499,874

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	148,424
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	319,500
AOF4	Health	
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	5,325
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	10,650
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	5,325
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	10,650
TOTAL		499,874





17 January 2020
MDRIR003
FF-2020-000006-IRN



Iran Flash Floods Disaster Relief Emergency Fund



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

0 0.001 0.002 0.003 0.004 km



Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the National Society

- Ms. Zahra Falahat, IRCS Acting Under Secretary General, International Affairs & IHL, phone: +98 9128016240, Email: intdep@rcs.ir
- Operational Coordinator: Ms. Mansooreh Bagheri, phone: +98 9121396432, Email: intdep@rcs.ir

IFRC Country Office:

- Davood Pourkhanali, Acting Iran, Country Representative, phone: +961 79 300560, Email: Davood.Pourkhanali@ifrc.org

In the IFRC regional office:

- Hosam Faysal, Head of Disaster and Crisis Prevention, Response and Recovery; phone: +961 71 802219, Email: Hosam.faysal@ifrc.org
- Raja Assaf, Senior Response Officer, phone: +961 71 91089, Email: raja.assaf@ifrc.org
- Dharmin Thacker, Procurement Unit Manager, phone: +961 81 314135, Email: Dharmin.Thacker@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC regional office:** Yara Yassine, Senior Partnerships and Resource Development Officer; phone: +961 81 311918; Email: Yara.yassine@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries):

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Nadine Haddad, PMER Regional Manager; phone: +961 71 802775; Email: Nadine.Haddad@ifrc.org

IFRC Geneva:

- Esther Matyeka, DREF Senior Officer; phone: +41 75 419 8604; e-mail eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and peace.