Country profile

Within South-East Asia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is the country most at risk of disasters and humanitarian crises. In recent history, Myanmar has undergone a significant transition following years of conflict and isolation. Since 2011 it has shifted from a military regime to a more democratic government and moved towards a market-oriented economy. A social transition is palpable as Myanmar emerges from decades of relative isolation from the global community.

However, significant humanitarian and development gaps remain as a result of a complex combination of the country’s vulnerability to natural disasters (cyclones, floods, landslides, earthquakes, food and nutrition insecurity), and violence stemming from inter-community tensions, which has resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. The situation is compounded by chronic poverty and a general lack of access to basic services, such as health, potable water and sanitation. Disasters multiply the threat
of fragility; in many parts of Myanmar they heighten the exposure to risk and impact on the community’s capacity to manage, absorb and mitigate existing problems. Thus, the Myanmar context requires a multi-dimensional approach to programme design, funding and delivery.

National Society profile

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) is mandated as an auxiliary to the Government of Myanmar and is consistently the first to respond to disasters through its network of 330 branches with 44,000 active volunteers. MRCS has a new Central Council and Executive Committee, including a new President and Vice President, who were elected in November 2019, as stipulated by its governing laws.

Role of the country office

This plan for 2020 can only be achieved with technical and financial support from the IFRC Myanmar country office. Comprised of interventions across six interrelated areas of focus, the plan will be implemented using various strategies to support the development of MRCS. The fundamental objectives are to strengthen MRCS as a national-level institution with functional local branches and volunteers who can deliver quality services and fulfil its mandate as an auxiliary to the Government to deliver humanitarian services according to the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

As it integrates the initiatives of the 2018–2019 MRCS Rakhine Community Resilience Programme, the plan contributes to the Myanmar Red Cross Strategic Plan 2020 and is aligned to certain elements of the Government of Myanmar’s sustainable Development Plan (2018–2030). The goal is to strengthen community resilience while lessening dependence on humanitarian aid by leveraging local solutions.

Movement footprint

IFRC will continue to support MRCS to prepare for and respond to the humanitarian needs of populations affected by disasters, while strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people and communities. Efforts in 2020 will include a focus on enhancing MRCS systems and procedures, and coordinating multi-lateral support with new and existing partners, including American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross.
AREAS OF FOCUS

AREA OF FOCUS
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
DRR

45,000
PEOPLE TO BE MADE RESILIENT AGAINST DISASTERS.

AREA OF FOCUS
LIVELIHOODS AND
BASIC NEEDS

69,000
PEOPLE TO GAIN LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT.

AREA OF FOCUS
HEALTH

102,419
PEOPLE WILL BENEFIT FROM PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT.

AREA OF FOCUS
WATER, SANITATION AND
HYGIENE (WASH)

15,000
PEOPLE WILL RECEIVE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

• STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY
• ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT
• INFLUENCE OTHERS AS A LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNER
• ENSURE A STRONG IFRC
**AREAS OF FOCUS**

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

Myanmar is vulnerable to a wide range of natural hazards, especially cyclones, floods, and earthquakes. The combination of hazards aggravated by climate change, protracted crises in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan, and intermittent civil unrest makes it among the most vulnerable countries in the world. The INFORM index ranks Myanmar as 12th highest in terms of risk from humanitarian crises and disasters, overwhelming its national response capacity.

MRCS efforts on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate action are guided by its overall strategy to build healthier and safer communities, reduce vulnerabilities, and strengthen resilience, as well as its resilience strategy 2018–2030. The approach applied by MRCS, with support from IFRC, aims to strengthen the capacity of communities and local authorities to respond to disasters, mitigate risks, and ensure the sustainability of development gains.

Integrated in their approach, and in collaboration with disaster management committees at a number of levels, MRCS programmes aim to address livelihoods, water, sanitation, hygiene, and health needs through community-based resilience programming. Through its branches, MRCS aims to connect vulnerable communities to key institutions for additional support outside MRCS core services.

With support from IFRC, MRCS will scale up resilience interventions through multi-sectoral DRR and climate action in urban contexts, institutional disaster preparedness, and enhanced capacity on Early Warning Early Action programmes, starting with a forecast-based financing (FbF) feasibility study. Evidence from previous resilience programmes will inform the active participation of local stakeholders.
In 2020, IFRC will continue to provide and deliver relevant technical support to MRCS for the implementation of its DRR and climate-smart programme (i.e. project design, disaster response contingency plan, evidenced-based climate studies and advocacy for finalization of the Government’s International Disaster Response law).

**Key activities:**

- Support the capacity building of disaster management committees at community, school and township levels, and increase awareness on disaster and climate risks through public campaigns.
- Conduct enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments (EVCA), integrating climate actions into risk assessment and disaster management planning processes.
- Support the development and implementation of disaster management plans in communities, schools, and township levels.
- Conduct a scoping study for new resilience programmes and a feasibility study on FbF.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders and contribute to the One Billion Coalition for Resilience and link with relevant hubs and reference centres, including the IFRC Climate Centre.

**People reached through programmes and awareness on DRR and community resilience:** 45,000

**EVCA linked with local resilience actions:** 30

**Community action plans on DRR and climate action in place and implemented:** 30

**Capacity-building activities implemented by the National Society to increase understanding on climate action:** 3

**Outcome:** Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disasters and adopt climate risk-aware and environmentally responsible values and practices.
AREAS OF FOCUS

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

Many people living in camps or camp-like situations remain dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs. For some, this is a result of continued restrictions on their freedom of movement, while for others it relates largely to limited livelihood opportunities. Longstanding conflict in Kachin and Shan, inter-communal tensions in Rakhine, and recurrent climate-related shocks continue to undermine the stability and sustainability of household income and access to food and basic services.

Livelihoods are an integral part of MRCS community resilience programming aimed at reducing vulnerabilities of targeted populations. Protracted crises require interventions with a strong nexus between development and humanitarian aid. Interventions will aim at complementing family income, reducing the use of negative coping mechanisms, while increasing access to economic opportunities. Interventions will provide job opportunities in order to promote self-reliance.

The livelihoods intervention will be delivered through multi-sectoral activities aimed at five important aspects, namely: (i) livelihoods provision; (ii) restarting and restoring of livelihoods; (iii) strengthening of livelihoods; (iv) diversification of livelihoods; and (v) protection of livelihoods.
In 2020, IFRC will continue to provide relevant technical support to MRCS in the coordination and implementation of its programmes. Innovative, community-driven livelihood interventions, including cash-based programming, will be implemented in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan.

**Key activities:**

- Conditional cash grants or in-kind support and skills training will be provided to the most vulnerable people to restart or strengthen their livelihoods.
- Communities will be supported with multi-sectoral interventions, aimed at building resilience and protecting livelihoods.
- Livelihoods training and needs assessments, as well as household business plans, will be developed in targeted communities.
- Women’s groups will be formed and trained to develop revolving funds and promote livelihood skills.
- Assessments will be conducted in Kachin and Rakhine to inform appropriate livelihood interventions.
- Community action plans will be strengthened, including the capacity building of resilience committees and sub-groups in villages.

**Outcome:**

**Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods**
Remote areas, as well as those with recurring conflict, suffer from a paucity of basic health care services yet experience the highest disease burden. The Ministry of Health (MOH) provides basic health care services through rural, sub-rural and urban health centres. But due to a lack of resources and a limited number of trained community health workers, rural health centres are unable to reach communities with promotional and preventive health activities. MRCS-trained volunteers can fill this gap by providing quality health information and basic health services, by supporting MOH in the early detection of unusual events that could endanger community health and compromise resilience.

In collaboration with the MOH, the focus of interventions will be on health, resilience and community capacities, together with public health in emergencies (PHIE). Planning on pandemics and epidemics will link with MOH plans, and re-engage voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (VNRBD) and include the integration of health within approaches to migration. MRCS will further scale up community-based health first aid (CBHFA)—its flagship for health, which incorporates emergencies, epidemic control, and maternal, child and adolescent health and nutrition.

First aid training (content and methods) will be conducted by Participating National Societies, such as German Red Cross, in collaboration with the Global FA Reference Centre. Integration of gender and diversity into health projects will continue, especially in IFRC-supported health projects. Menstrual hygiene management guidelines and IFRC minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies are also applicable in the developmental context. Minimum standards for MRCS community engagement and accountability (CEA) will continue to be emphasized. The CBHR projects will contribute to branch development in collaboration with the Organisational Development department and branch development will continue to be one of the outcomes in the CBHR projects.
IFRC country office will provide MRCS with technical skills and coordination mechanism to conduct health assessments and evaluation studies, as well as coordinate with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and partners (e.g. American Red Cross and German Red Cross) regarding support for first aid development and implementation.

**Key activities:**

- Continue to support holistic community based health approaches in Loilen and other areas.
- Provide training and skills enhancement for volunteers and staff using e-CBHFA modules.
- Provide basic first aid training to community members as an entry point for engagement.
- Undertake impact evaluations and look back on studies to inform and improve programming.
- Undertake health needs assessments and project designs to incorporate relevant components and standards from IFRC minimum standards for PGI.

**People reached through services to reduce relevant health risk factors:** 77,003

**People reached through health programmes and services during emergencies:** 25,416

**Community action plans developed:** 90

**Volunteers trained by the national society in epidemic control:** 80

**People trained by the national society in first aid:** 769

**Outcome:** Vulnerable people’s health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services.
AREAS OF FOCUS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

The most common sources of drinking water in Myanmar are tube wells, boreholes and protected wells. In the dry season, 9.7 million people rely on unimproved water sources from ponds and rivers, or water delivered by truck. Approximately 40 per cent of the population need to transport water from its source—raising the risk of water contamination. Latrines are still uncommon in many rural areas, and knowledge of hygiene and sanitation is scant. Many people still do not understand the link between poor water quality and diarrhoea, intestinal worms and skin diseases.

The overall aim of water and sanitation interventions are to increase access to sustainable potable water, sanitation and hygiene knowledge, especially for those living in areas of protracted crises, disasters or in dry zones, as part of long-term development programming. The strategic direction of emergency WASH will be taken up as a key agenda item to consolidate approaches to small, locally managed emergencies. Following an assessment of MRCS capacity to respond to emergencies (in terms of human resources and equipment), emergency guidelines and a training curriculum will be developed based on the WASH competency framework, hygiene promotion, and menstrual hygiene management. The MRCS WASH unit will integrate emergency water, sanitation and hygiene into the MRCS contingency plan, working closely with disaster management and logistics counterparts. MRCS will set up water, sanitation and hygiene units within emergency teams, and provide equipment in several selected states/regions with support from Movement partners.
IFRC country office will provide technical support and supervision in the development of WASH guidelines and standards, and actively engage MRCS in national technical working groups, including coordination with partners. IFRC will support MRCS to update its hygiene promotion, focusing on water safety planning, menstrual hygiene management and maintenance and/or rehabilitation of existing water schemes, as required.

**Key activities:**

- Provide communities with sustainable access to safe water, including the development of water safety plans.
- Conduct hygiene promotion campaigns in schools and communities, including menstrual hygiene management.
- Contextualise menstrual hygiene management in emergencies.
- Develop guidelines on water, sanitation and hygiene in emergencies.
- Conduct baseline surveys for selected villages.
- Undertake endline surveys to measure impact.

**Outcomes:**

- **Households provided with improved access to safe water and knowledge on how to improve excreta disposal:** 3,000
- **Households reached with key messages that promote personal and community hygiene:** 1,000
- **Community-based water and sanitation management plans developed:** 10

**Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services**
Protection, gender and inclusion is IFRC’s cross-cutting approach that ensures the dignity, access, participation and safety of all individuals across its activities and programming. In 2020 IFRC will continue to support MRCS in mainstreaming gender and diversity into MRCS organisational structures and operations, as guided by the MRCS gender policy and IFRC’s minimum standards for PGI in emergencies, whenever feasible.

The work in 2020 will focus mainly on engaging with those people who face risks of marginalization, inequality or violence by addressing issues of exclusion, discrimination and inequity through:

- Placing greater emphasis on stand-alone protection areas, including antitrafficking assessments, piloting projects to protect adolescent girls on the move from sexual and gender-based violence and upholding their sexual and reproductive health rights and services during emergencies.

- Increasing local capacities, implementing community-based protection assessments to identify context specific protection concerns, risks and needs of girls, boys, women and men, and analysing the intersection of gender with other diversity conditions.

- Basing inclusive and protective disaster response operations on a gender and diversity analysis. IFRC’s revised Minimum Standard Commitments to Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergency Programming will be disseminated and integrated into training for surge capacity, and PGI will be integrated into emergencies.
Encouraging local, evidence-based solutions using research and best practice approaches to advance gender equality and inclusion within a protection framework. The inclusion of people with disabilities, as well as sexual and gender minorities, into all aspects of programming remains a priority for the region.

Improving the collection and analysis of sex, age and disability disaggregated data through existing data collection mechanisms, and enabling research and new learning content and tools for staff and volunteers to specifically address the inclusion of people with disabilities and gender and sexual minorities in different settings.

IFRC country office will ensure that, in the projects it funds, all project staff and volunteers sign an MRCS code of conduct and child protection policy, and are sensitized about and understand the implications of the gender and diversity and child protection policies, the anti-harassment policy, and the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy. IFRC will continue to promote the importance of regular collaboration and coordination with other national and international agencies through key coordination mechanisms, most importantly with the national-level gender-based violence sub-clusters led by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
AREAS OF FOCUS

MIGRATION

Myanmar is the largest country of origin for migrants in the Greater Mekong sub-region, with an estimated 4.25 million nationals living abroad. Migration and displacement are driven by a number of complex factors, including violent conflict, environmental degradation, disasters, and the economic imperative to seek a sustainable livelihood.

Following the outbreak of violence in August 2017, more than 700,000 people fled Rakhine State to the nearby city of Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh. Such displacement has created one of the most challenging and complex emergencies in the Asia Pacific region in decades.

MRCS aims to support the needs of migrants and their families, and those assisting in states of origin, transit and destination. MRCS takes a mainstreaming approach to integrate migration and displacement concerns in all its programmes and operations.

An analysis of migrants’ needs resulted in a 10-point plan of action to provide a platform for MRCS leadership, operational staff and volunteers to strengthen engagement with current and emerging humanitarian trends, and understand the dynamics and challenges related to migration and displacement.
In 2020, IFRC will continue to provide technical support to MRCS in order to advance its capacity to meet the humanitarian needs of displaced and vulnerable migrant groups. To that end, MRCS will develop a strategy on assistance, protection and humanitarian diplomacy. This work will build on the migration and displacement policy guidelines developed in 2017, addressing how MRCS works with internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, migrants and other groups on the move. The policy outlines the minimum requirements agreed by MRCS and in-country partners to guide the provision of assistance for either the return, integration or resettlement of IDPs and returnees. All initiatives will align with the overall MRCS 2018–2030 resilience framework to mainstream migration and displacement in existing programming.

**Key activities:**

- Develop MRCS migration and displacement policy and standard operating procedures.
- Develop and implement a migration and displacement training programme for policy-makers, operational staff and volunteers of MRCS.
- Undertake field-based needs assessments in priority contexts.
- Engage in dialogue at the national, regional and state levels with agencies and government.
- Convene a national humanitarian summit on migration and displacement.
- Facilitate a National Society peer-to-peer exchange to promote cross-regional sharing and learning.
- Support MRCS focal points on migration and displacement as part of the Asia Pacific Migration Network (APMN) and the IFRC Global Migration and Health Technical Working Group.

**OUTCOME**

**COMMUNITIES SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF MIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND THOSE ASSISTING MIGRANTS AT ALL STAGES OF MIGRATION (ORIGIN, TRANSIT AND DESTINATION)**
Overall, IFRC’s strategy of supporting MRCS’s development actions aims to position MRCS as a stronger, more relevant institution with the necessary competencies and financial foundation to deliver needs-based services to fragile communities and the most vulnerable people at scale, according to the Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. IFRC will use robust, detailed, contextual analysis to enable a more accurate, nuanced and context-specific understanding of vulnerability. It will manage risk through achieving very high standards of innovative analysis, which addresses both the causes and consequences of vulnerability and fragility. Based on IFRC’s National Society Development Framework, the focus will be on the following:

Strengthening the institution’s legal base and finances and mobilizing resources to expand and diversify income streams to sustain MRCS core structures. In 2019 MRCS held its first statutory elections at all organizational levels (township, state/region and national) in line with the 2015 Red Cross Law. In 2020 IFRC, in coordination and collaboration with Movement partners, will provide governance and leadership inductions, support the development of a new strategy (2021–2025) and provide technical guidance in managing financial sustainability.
Strengthening MRCS disaster preparedness and response capacity at local and national levels. This will include training and equipping national disaster response teams and township emergency response teams. Emphasis will be placed on strengthening community engagement, as well as accountability and institutionalizing cash-based interventions and humanitarian responses. The work will be guided by the 2018 revised Disaster Management Policy and the Preparedness for Effective Response assessment.

Using evidence-based research to support planning, monitoring, accountability and learning across the programme cycle.

Maintaining a critical number of well-prepared logistics staff, as well as expanding and strengthening warehouse capacity and management, including fleet management and procurement.

Providing additional support to branches in terms of human, financial and technological resources and systems to make way for decentralization, which will give branches greater decision-making power, responsibility and accountability for their services to diverse groups of people. This will contribute directly to localization, with branches at the forefront of building resilience.

Digital transformation is expected to transform the organization and drive social change. On a programme level this includes information management, and the manner in which data is collected, analysed and used for critical decision making.

**OUTCOME**

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY’S PROGRAMMATIC AND OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES ARE SUPPORTED

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPS DEEPLY SHARED IDENTITIES AND IMPROVED INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

THE IFRC NETWORK BENEFITS FROM ITS WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE, A SHARED CULTURE OF INNOVATION, LEARNING AND BUILDING ON BEST PRACTICE AND ANALYSIS
STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

In 2020, the IFRC Myanmar Country Office will continue to support and coordinate Red Cross Movement partners’ technical expertise for MRCS to strengthen its readiness to situations of disaster, disease and displacement. MRCS will continue to maintain readiness and agility to respond to displacement and population movements that result from situational violence, as well as preparedness to provide humanitarian aid to returnees in line with the fundamental principles and international standards. The feasibility of integrating FbF into MRCS response-readiness will be further explored in terms of the MRCS emergency relief fund and in-country funding mechanisms.

Where disasters require the support of the IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and emergency appeals, the Myanmar country office will ensure an effective and coordinated international disaster response within the framework of strengthening Movement coordination and cooperation according to the Global Emergency Response Framework. This includes ensuring that the office is ready to respond to disasters in compliance with Red Cross Red Crescent Principles and the Rules of Humanitarian Assistance. In strengthening MRCS institutional preparedness, the quality of assessment and reporting in emergencies, community engagement and accountability will be taken into account.
Disaster response will be supported by ensuring that IFRC’s standard operating procedures for emergency communications are followed at both regional and country levels to ensure that communications during emergencies are predictable, compelling, timely and consistent. The work programme includes materials to be shared with partners and donors in a timely manner. This is an area that will drive high media and social media reach for IFRC and MRCS.

In its role as convener of the shelter cluster in disasters caused by natural hazards, IFRC will mobilize and deploy surge capacity from its global shelter cluster during emergency responses upon request.

**Key activities:**

- Develop multi-hazard contingency plans and pre-disaster agreements.
- Provide technical support for the revision and roll-out of training for MRCS national disaster response teams and specialized emergency response teams.
- Enhance the collection, management and analysis of data and systems, digitalise multi-sectoral disaster needs and gaps assessments, and increase the application of mobile technology.
- Enhance readiness for cash-based interventions and disaster assistance.
- Strengthen the capacity of MRCS logistics and readiness to provide relief assistance to families in cases of disaster.

**OUTCOME**

**EFFECTIVE AND COORDINATED INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE IS ENSURED**

**OUTCOME**

**THE COMPLEMENTARITY AND STRENGTHS OF THE MOVEMENT ARE ENHANCED**

**OUTCOME**

**THE 2020 STRATEGY IS IMPLEMENTED**
In October 2018, MRCS launched the Myanmar Coalition for Resilience as a partnership platform, using a sunflower to symbolize resilience. Through this coalition, MRCS has rallied its partners, the private sector, government, institutional partners, civil society organisations, and private individuals alike, to align and contribute to the MRCS target of improving the resilience of up to 5 million people by 2025. MRCS will form collaborative partnerships with schools and academia to scale up activity. IFRC will support MRCS’ comprehensive engagement with youth and children in Myanmar to become more resilient at school and at home through the “Youth in School Safety” programme, sports and various Red Cross activities. In this regard, IFRC will support MRCS to build alliances and networks that can contribute to its goal and establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate resilience-building efforts.

In 2020 the IFRC will seek to replicate and expand the programmatic reach in protracted crises, building on lessons learned from the resilience programme in Rakhine. Importantly, in parallel with service delivery to vulnerable people, interventions will strengthen MRCS branch structures, with youth and volunteers as the primary agents to deliver services to people and communities, both in terms of longer-term development, as well as in their response to disasters. Myanmar is a pilot for creating platforms for active dialogue and participation of local communities. Participation initiatives will be supported to meaningfully reflect the voice of communities and demonstrate accountability.

The priority for IFRC is to identify and generate long-term predictable funding that enables a steady strengthening of MRCS systems and structures, including decentralization, empowerment and strong leadership of local branches.

In 2020, IFRC and MRCS will engage in the revision of Myanmar’s Disaster Management Law, based on the International Disaster Response Law (IDRL), using research undertaken in partnership with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. This work contributes to Red Cross and Red Crescent commitments to implement the 2018–2020 Action Plan from the Asia Ministerial Conference on DRR held in Mongolia in 2018. Support will be provided to MRCS to enhance its legislative advocacy capacity, including support for the development and dissemination of joint Red Cross Red Crescent position papers on pertinent issues of humanitarian work during protracted crises and in fragile contexts.
Key activities:

- Replicate and scale up support for resilience programmes in protracted crises and fragile contexts.
- Broker alliances and partnerships between MRCS and stakeholders to promote effective service delivery and innovation.
- Provide technical inputs to the National Disaster Law revision process and its elements of International Disaster Response Law.
- Produce high-quality research and evaluation to inform advocacy, resource mobilization and programming in fragile contexts.

THE IFRC SECRETARIAT, TOGETHER WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, USE THEIR UNIQUE POSITIONS TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS AT LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

THE PROGRAMMATIC REACH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY AND IFRC IS EXPANDED

OUTCOME

OUTCOME

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

The ability to implement this plan and achieve the associated budget depends on an effective IFRC, which must be seen as relevant and credible, representing and working towards the collective interests of the membership, as well as providing it with relevant and valued services. The priorities in 2020 will be on ensuring compliance with the highest standards of accountability by reinforcing its institutional commitment to the following:

- Compliance by all relevant stakeholders through a broad framework, using tools that include the code of conduct, principles and rules for humanitarian assistance, audited reports of expenditures and a wide range of monitoring and evaluation methodologies.
- Amenability to key management performance indicators, a results-based approach for all work outlined in long-term plans and emergency operations. All activities via IFRC are monitored through detailed measurements with indicators at different levels to track performance.
- Full adherence to IFRC’s Fraud and Corruption Prevention and Control policy and facilitate effective risk management and the development of a culture of transparency as part of a robust framework that contributes to sound management practices.
Strict adherence to IFRC’s Prevention of Sexual Exploitation policy to ensure that every necessary step is taken to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by IFRC personnel and to respond adequately to those incidents it cannot prevent. The policy prioritizes the well-being of survivors and accountability and integrity of IFRC’s engagement with members of local communities.

The highest commitment to ensuring a safe working environment and effective human resource management towards greater diversity and gender equality.

All IFRC-supported programmes will follow the IFRC and MRCS planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) processes, technical programme guidelines and frameworks, and financial and procurement policies. These will ensure accountable and cost-effective programme delivery. Staffing capacity in PMER will be increased to provide regular support to MRCS for strengthening programming quality and reporting. The IFRC country office will be encouraged to engage and contribute to regional and cross-country technical forums for programme design, works facilitation and training.

Key activities:

- Ensure 100 per cent compliance among staff for policies and guidelines.
- Systematically measure the impact and track the performance of programmes in line with guidelines and procedures.
- Train staff in financial systems and procedures and implement internal audit recommendations.
- Roll out training sessions of MRCS fraud and corruption policy.
- Prioritize staff security in all IFRC activities.
- Put in place a system to follow up on the outcomes of statutory meetings and governing board meetings.

**OUTCOME**

**THE IFRC ENHANCES ITS EFFECTIVENESS, CREDIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**OUTCOME**

**A STRATEGY AND A PLAN OF ACTION ARE DEVELOPED TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION WITHIN THE IFRC SECRETARIAT AND MRCS**

**ENDNOTES**

1. Addressing humanitarian needs in the context of migration and displacement: The role of MRCS.
Contact information of the IFRC Country office, for partners who wish to find out more:

Head of Country Office, Myanmar

Joy Singhal
joy.singhal@ifrc.org

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Myanmar Delegation
Red Cross Building First Floor
42 Strand Road
Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: +951 383 682
Fax: +951 383 686