



**MAANP001**

Appeal number

**3,390,000**

Swiss Francs

Total funding required

**185,600**

People to be reached

**112,600**

Volunteers country-wide



**NEPAL**

IFRC Country Office

## NEPAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Poverty in Nepal has seen a steady decrease over the last 20 years from around 42% of the population living below the poverty line in 1995 to 21.6% in 2015. However, bigger challenges remain in uplifting the remaining one-fifth of the Nepali population out of poverty and reducing inequalities (UNDP, 2019). Rapid development gains are fragilised by extreme vulnerability to disasters (both geological and climate-induced) so that the country remains a priority for community resilience enhancement, while also investing in preparedness and response initiatives. According to the United Nations, Nepal is the 11th most vulnerable country to earthquakes, and Kathmandu is the most at-risk city, while recent research from Durham University suggests that 9.5 million people are more at-risk of earthquake in rural Western Nepal. In April 2015, central Nepal was struck by the most devastating earthquake in decades, which claimed close to 9,000 lives and destroyed more than half a million homes. Nepal is equally vulnerable to climate change, with millions of Nepalese estimated to be at-risk from its related impacts, including reductions in agricultural production, food insecurity, strained water resources, loss of forests and biodiversity, and damaged infrastructure.

Since its formation in 1963, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has been leading humanitarian assistance and community-based development action in Nepal to help people in need during emergencies, whether at times of conflict or at peacetimes. In its auxiliary role to the government, it has grown to be the largest humanitarian entity in the field of disaster response and recovery in the country. NRCS also leads and supports in the areas of disaster risk reduction (DRR); healthcare; water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion (WASH); first aid; protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), and youth engagement.

The 2020 Operational Plan (OP) of IFRC Nepal Country Office (CO) focuses on strengthening the organisational capacity of NRCS to adapt to the evolving context of Nepal (including through the Red Cross Law and its implementation), taking stock of learnings brought by the Earthquake Response Operation, an unprecedented endeavour to reach people in need through partnerships. In addition, the OP supports community resilience, emergency health, emergency WASH, and PGI, while pursuing humanitarian diplomacy through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the CBDRM Platform chaired by the Government of Nepal. Finally, IFRC provides integrated services and coordination support to eight Partner National Societies (PNSs) which are planned to have in-country presence as of 1 January 2020.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT



### Opportunities for local actors in a federalised Nepal

For Nepal to achieve its bold commitments towards the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, significant investments and support at the local level are required. With the country now enjoying relative political stability, the shift to a federal system offers significant opportunities for local actors such as the Nepal Red Cross Society to facilitate local development initiatives hand-in-hand with local authorities, enhance community resilience, and represent the need of the most at-risk groups in national and local policy processes.

In this context, the Red Cross Law that is under the drafting process is expected to provide a refreshed mandate to the National Society to fulfill its auxiliary role and reshape its structures and systems to reach better and further the most vulnerable as a modern, efficient, inclusive and accountable organisation.

## STATISTICS

**21.6%** of Nepal's population live below the poverty line

**22%** of the population do not have access to basic health services.

**25%** of women have experienced some or multiple forms of violence

**2.1%** of the youth are unemployed

**22.32** per hundred thousand people die because of road accidents

## AREAS OF FOCUS

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 330,000**

IFRC will continue to support NRCS as the National Society translates the results of vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) exercises into local action: empowering 11 target communities of 5 districts in the Koshi River Basin to reduce their surrounding risks via the integrated community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) programme.

- 9,885 people to be reached with disaster resilience messages and DRR-related trainings

### SHELTER

IFRC will continue to provide technical support to the NRCS shelter interventions through Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) sessions in the communities and construction of evacuation centres as part of integrated CBDRR programme.

- 600 people to be reached by the construction of evaluation centres and PASSA sessions

### LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 80,000**

IFRC will continue to support NRCS livelihood interventions through skill-based training and start up support to families living in hazard zones as identified through the VCA outcomes based on pre-defined criteria through the integrated CBDRR programme.

- 444 people supported with in-kind assets or cash vouchers for starting economic activities
- 700 people reached by public awareness and education on sustainable livelihoods

### HEALTH

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 320,000**

IFRC will continue to support NRCS emergency health, first aid, and road safety initiatives through trainings, development of knowledge sharing and advocacy, as well as and technical guideline development for trained volunteers in collaboration with public healthcare services in the country.

- 57,759 people reached by health programmes and services
- 957 people trained in Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) and first aid

### WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 70,000**

IFRC will continue to support NRCS in the renovation/construction of water supply system in water scarce communities, ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, as well as promotion of gender equality and capacity building of community and NRCS local units.

- 6 drinking water schemes completed in Sindhuli district
- 35,380 people reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene

### PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 300,000**

IFRC will continue to support the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) capacity enhancement initiative of NRCS to ensure increased mainstreaming of related strategies and tools within programmes and services, including through the effective use of the Minimum Standard Commitments to PGI and the empowerment of focal points to champion PGI practice throughout the organisation.

- 6,198 people reached through PGI interventions

## STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 1,330,000**

This is the main priority area for IFRC, including through:

- Provision of technical and legal support towards the adoption of a Red Cross Law for Nepal
- Support to the launching and implementation of the Consolidated National Society Development (NSD) Plan of the NRCS towards 2025 (inclusive of nine thematic areas identified as priorities by NRCS in 2019)

### ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 80,000**

IFRC support to NRCS will aim to establish NRCS as partner of choice for humanitarian response in line with its national mandate provided by the authorities.

- Promote civil military relations for coordinated humanitarian response and preparedness
- Smooth shelter cluster coordination is ensured with national society involvement (in preparedness and response)

### INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 240,000**

- Engagement with government and DRR actors through community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) Platform
- Engagement with international partners as a member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)

### ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

**REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 650,000**

IFRC reinforces its commitment to compliance of highest accountability standards, while providing integrated services and coordination support to all its in-country members.

## CONTACTS

For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies In-country, please contact:

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