Emergency appeal
Viet Nam: Floods

This Emergency Appeal seeks a total of some **3.9 million** Swiss francs to enable the IFRC to support the **Viet Nam Red Cross Society** (VNRC) to deliver assistance to and support the immediate and early recovery needs of **160,000 people** for **12 months**, with a focus on the following areas of focus and strategies of implementation: shelter, livelihoods and basic needs, health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH), disaster risk reduction, community engagement and accountability as well as protection, gender and inclusion. The planned response reflects the current situation and information available as Typhoon Molave is predicted to make landfall in Central Viet Nam on 28 October 2020, packing maximum sustained winds of 185 kilometers per hour. As more information becomes available about the impact of the typhoon and floods, this appeal might be revised to increase the number of people affected who need to be assisted, increase activities or the number of volunteers, extend the timeframe or enlarge the geographic scope.

Like most countries around the world, Viet Nam’s economy was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and millions of people suffered from a loss of livelihood due to the pandemic. As COVID-19 continued to spread, Viet Nam kept preventive measures in place, including tight border controls, to prevent a second wave of outbreak. After more than three months without local transmission of COVID-19, a new case was recorded in late July in Da Nang relaunching government-led contact tracing and surveillance. By the end of July 2020, 43 new COVID-19 cases tied to the Da Nang outbreak had been recorded and localized lockdown measures were imposed. The second wave of COVID-19 spread to 15 cities/provinces and generated 551 locally transmitted cases of COVID-19 in Viet Nam.

As of 27 October 2020, almost 60 days have gone by since the last reported community transmitted case of COVID-19. The Ministry of Health have confirmed a total of 1,169 COVID-19 cases of which 1,023 have recovered and 35 deaths caused by the virus.

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

- **6 October 2020**: The central region of Viet Nam has been experiencing prolonged heavy rain.
- **11 October 2020**: Tropical storm Linfa made landfall in central Viet Nam.
- **13 October 2020**: Central Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control released National Appeal for flood-affected people.
- **14 October 2020**: Tropical Storm Nangka made landfall in north Viet Nam.
- **19 October 2020**: The Government of Viet Nam convened a meeting with Disaster Management partners to discuss and coordinate international support.
- **19 October**: DREF Operation approved for VNRC.

1 Updated information on the disaster and response by VNRC can be found on [GO Platform](https://www.ifrc.org/).
20 - 23 October 2020: Three teams coordinated by Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA), conducted damage assessment and needs analysis in the provinces of Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, and Quang Ngai. VNRC were part of the assessment team.

VNDMA and UN Residence Coordinator convened a meeting with all partners to share the joint assessment team report findings and proposed plan of action to support affected population.

28 October 2020: Typhoon Molave predicted to hit central Viet Nam, packing maximum sustained winds of 185 kilometers per hour.

28 October 2020: IFRC issues Emergency Appeal for CHF 3.9 million Swiss francs to assist 160,000 people.

The operational strategy

Situation Overview

From 6 October 2020 the Central region of Viet Nam experienced prolonged, heavy rains that have caused severe and widespread flooding and landslides in eight provinces. This is due to the combination of numerous weather systems – the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone combining with cold air as well as tropical storms Linfa and Nangka. Tropical Storm Linfa made landfall in Quang Nam and Quang Ngai provinces in Central Viet Nam in the morning of 11 October 2020 while Tropical Storm Nangka made landfall in the morning of 14 October 2020 in the northern provinces of Viet Nam which brought along a further 300 – 450 millimeters of rain into the country. On 16 October 2020, another tropical depression (Tropical Depression INVEST 94W) made landfall in the central provinces of Viet Nam. The tropical depression had weakened into a low-pressure area and dissipated after landfall.

By 24 October 2020, 130 deaths were reported and a further 18 people were missing, according to the Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority (VNDMA). Over 310,000 houses have been flooded, affecting 1.3 million people. Authorities estimated that a total of seven million people have been exposed to the storms, and some five million people are likely to experience worsening conditions because of the flooding situation.

In the coming days more rainfall has been forecasted to hit the central region, while hydropower plants began releasing water from reservoirs. Typhoon Molave is predicted to make landfall on already-flooded regions of Viet Nam on 28 October 2020. Affected provinces include Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thura Thien Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai.

The Hieu River (Quang Tri), Bo River (Hue), Gianh River and Kien Giang River (Quang Binh) have reached historically high levels, and in some locations flood waters have exceeded the previous historical highs recorded in 1979 and 1999. VNDMA has reported that many areas in central Viet Nam recorded accumulated rainfall of more than 1,600 millimeters between 5 to 20 October 2020, with peaks of 2,400 millimeters in some locations over the same period.

The floods have caused significant damage to infrastructure including roads, schools, health centres and community facilities. It is reported that more than 360 schools have been flooded or damaged, as well as causing deaths to over two million livestock and lost or damaged of 30,000 hectares of agricultural production.
Summary of Red Cross response to date

The VNRC coordinates closely with government counterparts through the National Society’s membership of the National Steering Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control. All VNRC’s chapters in potentially affected areas are urged to work closely with the Steering Committee of Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, Search and Rescue at local levels. At the branch level, the National Society has been active in assisting with the dissemination of early warnings and evacuations. The VNRC immediately released emergency aid, including cash assistance (120 Swiss franc bereavement grant per deceased household member) and essential household items, including household kits and boxes of water purification sachets.

Relief efforts continued over the weekend of 11 to 12 October 2020, with VNRC’s disaster response teams deployed together with community-based volunteers and relief items. VNRC teams reached many affected communities by boat as many places had been cut off by flood waters. At least 2,390 household kits were distributed (840 kits in Quang Binh, 750 kits in Quang Tri, 300 kits in Thua Thien Hue, 200 kits in Quang Nam and 300 kits in Ha Tinh). The VNRC has moved its prepositioned stocks such as 6,250 household kits, 684 shelter tool kits and water purification tablet (WPT) to aid more people in these provinces.

National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs) convened an urgent meeting with the participation of the IFRC Programme Coordinator from CCST Bangkok, Partner National Societies (American Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and German Red Cross) and ICRC to update the situation and discuss response plan. VNRC deployed three NDRT members to join the assessment team of Disaster Management Working Group to conduct a joint assessment in Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Quang Nam (see below for initial findings).

Provincial Disaster Response Teams (PDRTs) have been deployed to the affected areas in Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam together with Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) to assist the local branches to immediately respond to the floods and conduct the needs assessment using mobile data collection tool – Kobo Toolbox.

Apart from the government, the VNRC has been among the very first to respond to this flood situation and continues to be one of the leading actors working in the affected provinces. Thousands of volunteers and staff from local chapters participate in the evacuation efforts of affected people to safer places. The evacuation process is well coordinated with local authorities and further enhance the preparedness of the community in response to the disaster. These teams were also actively involved in needs assessments and relief distribution.

Logistics teams were well-prepared and supported the delivery of relief items through the activation of pre-agreements with suppliers and/or the use of railway and airlines for free. All staff and volunteers were on standby to update the typhoon information and assess damages and needs. VNRC disaster preparedness capacity also allowed the National Society to provide immediate assistance in the form of household kits, WPT and cash distributions to affected people.

In preparation for the incoming Typhoon Molave, VNRC has organized an urgent virtual meeting with all relevant Red Cross chapters including representatives from NDRTs and PDRTs to discuss preparedness and early actions such as evacuation of people, strengthening houses with sand bags and relevant materials as well as moving valuable assets away from possible flood level. In addition, VNRC has been in contact with airlines and railways to support with the transportation of stocks from Hanoi warehouse to Da Nang warehouse.
COVID-19 pandemic update in Viet Nam

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, as of 27 October 2020, Viet Nam had confirmed 1,169 cases of COVID-19 with 35 deaths, though 1,010 patients have recovered, and the country has witnessed no community infection in the past eight weeks. The country has suspended the entry of all foreigners from 22 March 2020 until further notice to limit the spread of COVID-19. The measure will not apply to diplomats, officials, foreign investors, experts, and skilled workers. However, wearing masks and social distancing are still applied in public places. Information on VNRC response to COVID – 19 pandemic in Viet Nam can be found in GO Platform.

Needs assessment and targeting

Three joint assessment teams (JAT) were established and deployed to the most affected provinces of Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Quang Ngai from 20 to 24 October 2020 with the participation of 16 international organizations and VNDMA. In the meantime, VNRC will continue to conduct detailed needs assessment in coming days and weeks to inform the operation of both emergency and recovery interventions.

The assessment team’s initial findings have highlighted the following needs:

- WASH (access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene).
- Food (covered by the Government of Viet Nam).
- Shelter (support to repair and rebuilding as well as access to household items).
- Education (support to affected schools inundated with water and mud).
- Cash to restore livelihoods (agriculture, aquaculture, livestock, small businesses).
- Health (assistance to flooded health centres and waterborne disease prevention).
- Ensuring that the response is gender-sensitive and disability-inclusive and the preferred feedback communication channel is identified.

According to the JAT report, there are findings related to safety and security in evacuation sites. For example, thousands of people had to evacuate to safe places for three to 14 days (Hue: 15,147 households; Quang Binh: 29,793 households and Quang Tri: 15,372 households). Evacuation sites are often in public places (community houses or commune people’s committee offices) or neighbour’s houses. These locations often do not have dedicated sleeping areas separated by gender. They often become overcrowded with both family and non-relatives which limits privacy and can lead to conflict between families, general harassment and intimidation, increased risk of violence and sexual harassment to women and girls and boys. In many cases affected families have no electricity, no flashlights and mobile phones were out of battery. Women - especially single or widowed women - do not feel comfortable/safe to stay in these places. Some of them tried to go back to their houses as soon as they could, even their houses are still inundated. Evacuation sites are not accessible for people with disabilities. They do not provide facilities for basic health services and sanitation for evacuated people. Many have no bathrooms and toilets at all, or no separate bathrooms and toilets in the evacuation sites.

Based on the impact of the disaster, the identified urgent needs, and the capacity of its branches in the affected areas, VNRC is targeting the most vulnerable poor households that have been severely affected by the floods.
While lost livelihoods and/or houses severely damaged will be considered the most important criteria for selecting people to receive cash assistance, the following criteria will be taken into account during the process of prioritization. Four targeted provinces are Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Quang Binh. The primary and secondary criteria of people targeted to be reached will be outlined in the emergency plan of action.

The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout. Area specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training.

With regards to VNRC staff and volunteers, the National Society’s security framework is being applied. In terms of security during distributions, the national society is working very closely with local government in the identification of appropriate distribution points considering aspects such as access and security as well as COVID-19 prevention measures such as hand-washing, wearing face-masks and social distancing.

Coordination and partnerships

The Government of Viet Nam has engaged with various partners (UN agencies, INGOs, Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) and private sectors) right from the onset of the floods to coordinate the relief effort and identify the needs through meetings and joint missions. At the coordination meeting convened by the VNDMA on 27 October 2020, several agencies including the UN committed to seek resources to assist the relief and recovery effort. VNDMA is working with UN agencies and INGOs to map out resources and interventions to avoid duplication and enhance coordination.

The VNRC is a member of the Humanitarian Country Team and sits on the Cash Working Group as well as convening the IASC Shelter Cluster. VNRC has joined the DMWG meeting and continues to informally share information with these groups as requested. In addition, VNRC has close relationships with members of the local corporate sector including The Coca-Cola Company, Procter & Gamble and CP Group, who have provided some in-kind assistance including fresh water-bottles and food items.

The VNRC also received requests from foreign embassies (Swiss Embassy and Chinese Embassy in Viet Nam), USAID and some private sector companies to provide updates on the current situation and requests for proposals to support VNRC in the response. USAID confirmed that it will support the response with a grant of 100,000 US dollars for relief activities; the Red Cross Society of China through the Chinese Embassy in Viet Nam confirmed support of 100,000 US dollars; and Singapore Red Cross confirmed support of 25,000 US dollars. The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, the Prudential Insurance, Coca-Cola Company and Facebook have closely worked with VNRC to provide in-kind donation.

Proposed Areas for intervention

The operation aims to meet the immediate and longer-term needs of 40,000 of the most vulnerable affected households (160,000 people) in four targeted provinces within 12 months. Targeted people will be assisted through shelter, livelihoods and basic needs, health, WASH, disaster risk reduction, community engagement and accountability as well as protection, gender and inclusion. Activities include repair, rebuild of shelters and safe shelter promotion as well as provision of household items; provision of water purification tablets and deployment of water purification units as well as jerry cans and water storage containers together with hygiene promotion activities; cash and voucher assistance through multipurpose cash grants (MPCG) and conditional livelihoods grants; health promotion activities, and epidemic control for volunteers (ECV).

The operation will be delivered in a manner that minimizes the risk of COVID-19 transmission for disaster-affected people. VNRC will ensure adequate coordination and cooperation with other partners working in the areas and the local authorities to avoid any potential duplication and feedback system such as hotline will be set up and available in all targeted communities to receive reflection from the affected people. Post distribution monitoring and beneficiary satisfaction survey will be conducted in all targeted areas.

The target locations and scope of intervention may vary due to the commitment and ongoing support from other humanitarian actors including UN agencies, INGOs, private sectors, organizations and individuals.
Below is the breakdown of people to be reached through the EA (some people will be reached by multiple sectors):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th>Livelihood and basic needs</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>WASH</th>
<th>DRR</th>
<th>PGI &amp; CEA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44,000</td>
<td>17,200</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>84,000</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Areas of Focus**

**Shelter**

**People targeted:** 44,000
- Male: 22,000
- Female: 22,000
**Requirements (CHF):** 1,600,000

**Proposed intervention**

Out of the 310,000 houses that were inundated, over 37,000 houses were destroyed and damaged to various extent, from totally collapsed, partial damage (cracks, damage to walls, windows, foundation and structure). Based on the initial data collected, the main impacts of the disaster have been to shelter, household items and livelihoods.

At least 10,000 households will be reached in four targeted provinces. VNRC plans to distribute 5,000 household kits and 5,000 shelter tool kits due to the damage’s assessment and recommendations from JAT report. It is expected that 5,000 household kits and 5,000 shelter tool kits will reach the affected people within three months.

In addition, 400 households will be fully supported with newly built houses (flood resistant houses) and 650 affected households will be provided with conditional cash (voucher for materials) for repairing damaged houses. The repair and construction work will be implemented within nine months with strict guidelines and monitoring from VNRC and technical partners. Trainings will be provided for local government agencies and households on safe shelter and how to reinforce houses before natural disasters together with distribution of IEC materials. The disbursement of cash support to affected households will be done through financial service providers (FSPs).

![Damaged and flooded houses in Quang Binh province.](Photo: JAT report)

**Livelihoods and basic needs**

**People targeted:** 17,200
- Male: 8,600
- Female: 8,600
**Requirements (CHF):** 730,000

**Proposed intervention**

It is estimated that 55 million tons of food stock and 700 million tons of seeds; 1,000 hectares of paddy rice and 7,700 hectares of cash crop; 4,400 hectares of aquaculture (without Quang Binh report); 6,700 cattle and 760,000 poultry; 330 hectares of perennial trees and 640 hectares of fruit trees are already lost and damaged.
VNRC plans to use cash to deliver support to affected communities considering its experience on cash and voucher assistance programmes. The ongoing distribution of rice and in-kind food by the government and partners will only cover 10-20 per cent of food needs based on the recommended calculation of minimum expenditure basket (MEB) per month of each household to ensure food security.

The objective is to support restoration of food security and livelihood activities in five provinces that are most affected. A total of 4,300 households will be targeted to receive unconditional multipurpose cash grants (MPCG) to ensure gaps in food and immediate basic needs are address with consideration of the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) calculation as endorsed by the cash working group. A total of 1,000 households will be provided with conditional livelihood grants to support replacement of livelihood assets and restoration of livelihood activities. It is estimated that 17,200 people will benefit directly from this project with 12 months of implementation.

The planned interventions will help the affected communities to purchase essential commodities and address immediate needs (food, medicine, school expenses, etc.) while ensuring to restore food and income sources and mitigate negative coping such as cycle of debts. The conditional grants will help to support early livelihood recovery after further community consultations.

**Health**

People targeted: 50,000  
Male: 25,000  
Female: 25,000  
Requirements (CHF): 50,000

**Proposed intervention**

Continuing heavy rain and flooding increases the risk of health issues such as communicable and vector-borne diseases. There is an urgent need to promote health education for the population in affected areas to reduce risk of illnesses and improve living conditions.

The VNRC is targeting the most vulnerable households affected by the floods and which were already in a situation of poverty. VNRC is already developing training materials on the topic of Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV). Modules shall cover the prevention and control of COVID-19 transmission, respiratory diseases, diarrheal disease, skin diseases, eye diseases, and other infectious water- and vector-borne diseases. 150 Red Cross volunteers in four provinces will be selected for training sessions taking place in four provinces within two months. After the training, volunteers will conduct health education sessions with communities to ensure people are aware of possible health risks and how to prevent them from happening. At least 50,000 beneficiaries will receive health education sessions.

The VNRC’s chapters in targeted provinces have closely worked with the local authorities and health sector in order to have a regular review of epidemiological trends to ensure activities target those areas at a higher risk of disease transmission.

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**

People targeted: 84,000  
Male: 42,000  
Female: 42,000  
Requirements (CHF): 200,000

**Proposed intervention**

Floods and typhoons have destroyed residential buildings, leading to displacement, overcrowding, increased exposure to animals and insects, and worsened living conditions. They also damaged infrastructure (such as sewage systems or electrical supply), the agricultural process, and health care facilities. This indirectly led to the transmission of infectious and vector-borne diseases, increased physiological stress, exacerbation of existing conditions, malnutrition, and lack of access to preventative and curative health care.
There is a shortage of safe water following the floods. To respond to the pressing WASH needs, VNRC has distributed water purification tablets (480,000 tablets of Aquatab tablet and 144,000 P&G water purification sachets) from its prepositioned stocks for immediate distribution.

Furthermore, heavy floods affecting/contaminating many water-wells and water sources, there is a high need of household water containers in the community.

It is proposed that at least 20,000 households will receive water purification tablets with a total of 2,400,000 Aquatab tablets (120 tablets per household for one-month supply of daily use), orientation on its use and post distribution monitoring. Since the floods have damaged people’s water storage facilities, VNRC will provide support to 1,000 households with water storage containers (1,000 liter capacity) to enable affected households to reserve water along with jerry cans as well as deployment of water purification units. Hygiene promotion activities will also be provided to the affected people during the distribution of WPTs, water supply and in conjunction with the disease prevention. VNRC will continue to mobilize its volunteers to work with local authorities to clean up the environment after the water receding. In the meantime, hygiene practice will be incorporated under the school safety and education under DRR. The proposed activities will be closely coordinated with other relevant actors who address the sanitation needs.

**Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

People targeted: 160,000  
Male: 80,000  
Female: 80,000  
Requirements (CHF): 60,000

**Proposed intervention**

The operation will ensure the promotion and participation of men and women of different age groups through trainings and consultation and conduct a gender and diversity analysis to understand and respond to individual and groups based on their specific needs, risks and concerns. Sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) will be collected and analysed and will be informing the emergency response. A continuous dialogue among the different stakeholders will be fostered to ensure programmes mainstream DAPS (Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety) approach and Minimum Standard on Protection, Gender and Inclusion, based on the identified needs and priorities of humanitarian imperatives on the ground.

Activities will support the assessment teams to ensure collection and analysis of sex-age and disability-disaggregated data and provide chapter level orientation for staff and key volunteers on protection, gender and inclusion with specific focus on Minimum Standard Commitments incorporation with other trainings as well as ensure identification and proactive inclusion of different target groups including gender, diversity and disability in beneficiary selection process.
Disaster Risk Reduction

People targeted: 24,000
Male: 12,000
Female: 12,000
Requirements (CHF): 480,000

Proposed intervention
There are findings regarding the shortage of capacity on disaster preparedness and response of local government and mass organizations/local communities/schools and the need to improve the early warning system as well as development of early warning messages. These should be tailored made for each hazard and dissemination to the public through simulation exercises to prepare for upcoming disasters as well as community based disaster risk management/assessment (CBDRM/A) training and integration of DRR/CCA into social economic development plans.

It is targeted that 12 districts, 24 communes and 200 villages in four provinces will benefit from these interventions.

Interventions planned include:
- Provincial disaster response teams’ trainings.
- Equipment for Provincial Disaster Response Teams.
- PEER/CADRE/First Aid trainings for Community Disaster Response Teams.
- Disaster preparedness and response trainings for communities.
- Safe school trainings, assessment and improvements for target schools including hygiene promotion and practice and disease prevention.
- Disaster preparedness and response trainings for teachers and management boards.
- CBDRM/A trainings.
- CBDRA and DRR plan as well as contingency planning development/revision.
- Small mitigation projects.
- Training on integration of DRR/CCA into socio-economic development plan (SEDP).
- Emergency response drills.

Strategies for Implementation
Requirements (CHF): 780,000

Based on the demand for technical and coordination support required to deliver this operation, the following programme support functions will be put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical coordination: operations management, human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology support (IT); information management; communications; security; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; and finance and administration. More details are in the Emergency Plan of Action.

Funding Requirements
See attached IFRC Secretariat Funding Requirements (Annex 1) for details.

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Secretary General
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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.
Annex 1

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

EMERGENCY APPEAL

MDRVN020 - VIET NAM - FLOODS

Funding requirements - summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Intervention</th>
<th>Needs in CHF</th>
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<tr>
<td>DISASTER RISK REDUCTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHELTER</td>
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<td>LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS</td>
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<td>HEALTH</td>
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<td>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</td>
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<td>PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION</td>
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<td>STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETIES</td>
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<td>EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENSURE A STRONG IFRC</td>
<td>20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,900,000</strong></td>
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*all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*