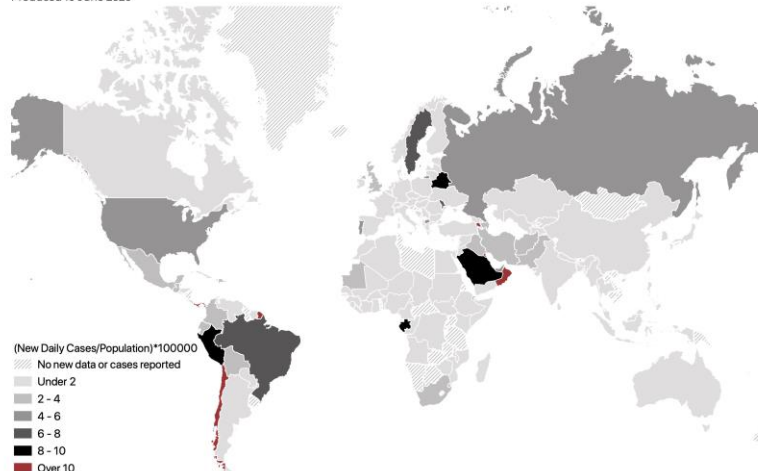


## Situation Update

**7,145,539** confirmed cases globally reported to WHO as at 2:04pm CEST, 10 June 2020

COVID-19 Global View map shows new cases per population.

COVID-19 Global View  
Produced 10 June 2020



This map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Produced by SIMS (2020).

## Funding\*\*

**450,000,000** CHF Required

**31%**   **9%**   **60%**

■ Hard pledges   ■ Soft pledges   ■ Funding gap



\*\* Funding gap calculated after factoring-in soft pledges as well as hard pledges.

## National Society Response

**104** National Societies reporting via public COVID-19 Field Reports as submitted on the GO Platform.



**102**  
Sustaining Health and WASH



**94**  
Addressing Socioeconomic Impact



**90**  
Strengthening National Societies

## GO Platform

National Society Field Reports and Emergency pages can be found on GO platform.

[Click here](#) for the detailed up-to-date information on the situation, analysis, RCRC Movement actions, documents and additional information available on GO.

[go.ifrc.org](https://go.ifrc.org)

## Useful Links

### Technical Guidance - Compendium

The [Red Cross And Red Crescent Movement Resource Compendium](#) has links to resources and guidance and resource hubs such as

- Health Help Desk
- Business Continuity Planning Help Desk
- Cash Help Desk
- Community Engagement Hub
- Livelihoods Help Desk
- IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support
- National Society Resources and Guidance by a number of topics

The latest WHO sit-reps are [here](#) and visualisations at [WHO](#) and on [GO Platform](#).

## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

The **Revised Emergency Appeal (28 May 2020)** is available [here](#).  
The **Emergency Plans of Actions for COVID-19 operation** are available [here](#).

### Red Cross and Red Crescent activities globally

#### Health and Care

The Health and Care team continues to provide technical and coordination support to National Societies and IFRC Regions. This week the IFRC participated in a global technical consultation on contact tracing, which included representatives from Ministries of Health, UN bodies, and other technical experts. The Health and Care team is also supporting the development of consistent community case definitions for COVID-19, recognising that the illness extends beyond respiratory symptoms. The development and validation of a consistent interagency community case definition will support community-based surveillance, in addition to other community-based health activities related to COVID-19. Work is ongoing to support adaptation of expected and ongoing responses to other emergencies to account for the pandemic's impacts and to reduce the likelihood of transmission in other emergencies. This includes the newly emerged 11<sup>th</sup> outbreak of Ebola virus disease in DRC, and adaptation of responses to heat waves. The health help desk continues to draw contributions of resources, tools and learning opportunities from National Societies, allowing it to grow as a platform for knowledge management and sharing.

#### Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

**Coordination:** The IFRC in partnership with IFRC, WHO and UNICEF continues to play a leading role in the Collective Risk Communication and Community Engagement to provide coordinated technical support on RCCE as part of the COVID-19. IFRC is actively participating in the several interagency coordination core and sub-groups such as the [Low Resource settings](#) where focus has been put on the role that RCCE is playing during the [post lockdown](#) and the different contexts and humanitarian profiles.

**Technical:** Thanks to a dedicated IM consultant, work towards interpreting, visualizing and triangulating feedback data from the regions continues and will feed the interagency coordination groups.

Two rounds of [TOT CEA Webinars](#) were concluded with a total number of 84 participants. Adjusted versions of the online TOT have been implemented in the regions and tailored to National Society level training packages. RCCE team continues to produce tools to guide and orient NS staff and volunteers on the [use of masks](#), support technically on several animation videos to address stigma, and a series of infographics to plan social mobilization and community meetings safely.

#### Livelihoods and Household Economic Security

Support for **Cash and procurement of Financial Service Providers** (FSP) has been agreed with the Cash Remote Helpdesk. Approximately 45 National Societies plan to include cash in their COVID response while only 6 FSP's are in place, hence there is significant work ahead to support NSs to secure the services they need. The Market Place Setup Guidance has been finalised to support National Societies to advocate for COVID-19 sensitive strategies to support markets to recover and thereby support cash-based approaches.

The **Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) HelpDesk** continues to provide remote support to National Societies. The main requests are focused in how to conduct remote livelihoods assessments, how to adjust the ongoing operation to COVID-19 and how to target effectively. Webinars have been conducted providing information about the impact of COVID-19 in people's food security and livelihoods, potential intervention and services. Several [infographics](#) related to livelihoods and food security have been developed. The Livelihood Reference Centre has reached over 12,000 people on Facebook and 18,000 on LinkedIn.

#### Migration and Displacement

During this reporting period, at the global level, the IFRC and ICRC have produced recommendations on "[Reducing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on internally displaced people](#)". The recommendations have been developed based on input provided by some National Societies during a webinar organized by the ICRC and IFRC in April to discuss the risks and challenges facing internally displaced people in relation to COVID-19 and our response to them. The recommendations underscore the Movement commitment to ensuring that IDPs are not left out of public prevention and response activities. The recommendations will be available shortly in Spanish, French and Arabic.

At the end of May, joint guidance was released by ICRC and IFRC on the inclusion and protection of migrants in the face of COVID-19 pandemic in Europe and Central Asia. The guidance covers the main concerns for migrants, dialogue

with authorities and key messages and advice on communication with media. The guidance has been uploaded on to the [GO Platform](#).

A series of webinars is planned on RCCE in the context of Migration for European National Societies in response to COVID19, which are planned to start next week. In addition, work has started on the development of a training module on Migration and Risk communication and community engagement.

The IFRC is excited to announce a new [MOOC on COVID-19 Adapting Child Protection Case Management](#). The Massive Open Online Course or MOOC is an interagency project co-led by the IFRC Migration and PGI teams, resulting in 4 hours course available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. The course profiles interesting practices from Icelandic Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and Philippines Red Cross on their use of the [Virtual Volunteer platform](#) to reach migrants during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The MOOC is due to start on 29 June

## Protection, Gender, Inclusion (PGI) and Education

**The PGI and Education team** has supported the memberships COVID-19 response through; **Global guidance** on impacts of COVID-19 in relation to [SGBV](#), [Child Protection](#), [Trafficking in Persons](#) and on Working with older people. And with WVI, [activity cards](#) to support wellbeing of children out of school. Substantive contributions on PGI and Education aspects have been provided to other IFRC guidance such as on Fragile, conflict and vulnerable contexts. Support is ongoing to digitise existing RCRC educational materials and has also been provided to WHO on school-related public health measures, INEE-CPHA guidance on schools' reopening, IASC MHPSS working group; **ensuring PGI is integrated into all guidance**.

Attended by more than 250 participants the **webinar series on RCRC education** response to COVID-19 addressed *Protection, safety and well-being of learners, parents/caregivers, teachers and other personnel; RCRC provision of complementary education opportunities for educational continuity*. **Several webinars and online support were provided on PGI: RedTalk on issues faced by children, Working with older people, briefing on SGBV and COVID-19**, and with partners the IFRC developed [key messages](#) for governments on child protection.

**Global coordination** in addressing PGI issues in COVID-19 has been provided; with ICRC and the Movement advisory board on protection such as through joint webinars; through coordination with sectoral colleagues for a common approach to PGI issues in COVID-19; by reviewing and supporting alignment of **PGI in regional and country response plans**; adapting SGBV implementation plans with 4 NSs in light of COVID-19; analyzing challenges identified by NSs in response to SGBV in the current context, and by establishing support for PGI in COVID-19 such as through collaboration with Finnish RC and Turkish RC. IFRC joined the global COVID-19 Public Health and Social Science Research Working Group on Children, Youth and Schools, and with ICRC; the Global Education Coalition launched by UNESCO.

## National Society Preparedness

IFRC is playing an active role in the IASC Emergency response preparedness working group, discussing how to support field partners with the adaptation of their preparedness and readiness for existing risks in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

National Society [Preparedness for Effective Response](#) (PER) global and regional results [trends visualization](#) and [lessons learned](#) from DREF-funded operations are now available. These dashboards allow the identification of main operational challenges that require attention, such as business continuity planning (BCP) and contingency planning (CP), for which job aids and templates are being developed. Technical BCP support is provided through the [BCP Helpdesk](#) (operated by the GDPC) with an updated landing page. National Society focal points were identified and several BCP and CP collected as best practices. A thorough scenario analysis is key to this planning processes. A short guidance was developed on how to use the PER mechanism within operations to guide National Society and IFRC teams.

PER mechanism country profiles for the 52 countries that have undergone a full assessment are available and will be included in the GO platform. The mapping of existing guidance and tools linked to the PER mechanism to be shared as simple one-page technical cheat sheets is underway, as well as videos about each PER area. The transfer of PER face-to-face training to an online modality is continuing.

During a virtual PER Technical working group meeting, IFRC, ICRC and 20 National Societies discussed some of the guidance and products under development. A session on National Society's capacity to prepare and respond to various types of risks also took place at the [Pre-hurricane virtual conference](#), where the Bahamas Red Cross shared its

experience of remote work sessions on capacity strengthening, and Guatemala in strengthening its response capacity for multiple hazards in the context of COVID-19.

## National Society Development

**Financial Sustainability:** In order to follow up on the Guidance document and Toolkit for NS Financial Sustainability, webinars were organized with the Americas, Africa and Asia Pacific technical counterparts. The NSDV team is now also developing an agreement with the World Institute for Action Learning to enable NS pro-bono access to coaches for Action Learning Concepts for NS Financial Sustainability during COVID-19 and has set up a group of expertise for Financial Sustainability to serve as a support for NSs.

**Support to volunteers:** The guidance document on ensuring coverage for uninsured volunteers impacted by COVID-19 was finalized and is presently rolled out through the regional offices. It provides guidance and support to National Societies in developing context-specific approach where domestic coverage for medical care or death compensation is lacking.

**Others:** The experience of the Italian RC on organising NS national elections virtually will shortly be captured in a video to share with other NSs that may face the same issues

## Business Continuity Planning and Security within IFRC Secretariat

An updated list of BCP documents for mandatory use across the whole organization has been shared and a dedicated [FedNet page](#) has been created. The standards outlined in these documents apply to all IFRC offices and to all staff holding IFRC contracts for whom we have a duty of care. Movement of people across borders de facto suspended globally and for this reason IFRC has been signed a partnership with WFP Air Passenger service, that allows us to move personnel to different locations around the world. So far WFP has established 19 routes. In addition, IFRC constantly monitor national COVID-19 procedures in order to ensure full compliance: more than 90 daily travels advisories have been produced and sent to more than 100,000 NSs volunteers and staff worldwide and more than 3,500 IFRC staff.

Joint analysis is constantly ongoing between BCP and security experts and an overview of the pathways of impact of the pandemic on political stability or conflict dynamics is jointly discussed. The COVID-19 pandemic is primarily a health crisis and a threat to the global and national economies, but has also far-reaching social, political and security implications that are less evident and will last long after the contagion is contained. Such implications could give rise to new crises or exacerbate existing ones, increase insecurity leading to new displacements, increasing food insecurity, or aggravating poverty levels as well as creating disruptions to aid delivery.

The Global and Regional Security Units continue to actively support Cluster and Country Offices and well as National Society Security Managers and Focal Point through information gathering/sharing, providing security guidelines, security coordination and cooperation within the RC movement as well as with external partners and the humanitarian community. Desktop security assessments and analysis are carried out to ensure that our security risk registers, and mitigating measures are current and implemented as well as updated security plans across the regions.

## Communications

On 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement joined with [@UN](#) to call for a 'people's vaccine' that ensures everyone, everywhere has safe and equal access to immunization against [#COVID19](#). With impressive coverage the statement came ahead of a vaccine summit in London organized by the Global Vaccine Alliance starting on 4<sup>th</sup> June which contributed to the success of the strong media interest.

The Joint movement revised appeal was launched 28<sup>th</sup> May: [the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement appeal](#). Through a collaboration with Facebook a campaign was launched [#AfricaTogether: Coronavirus - Africa: Facebook and Red Cross launch #AfricaTogether, a Campaign calling for vigilance against Covid-19](#)

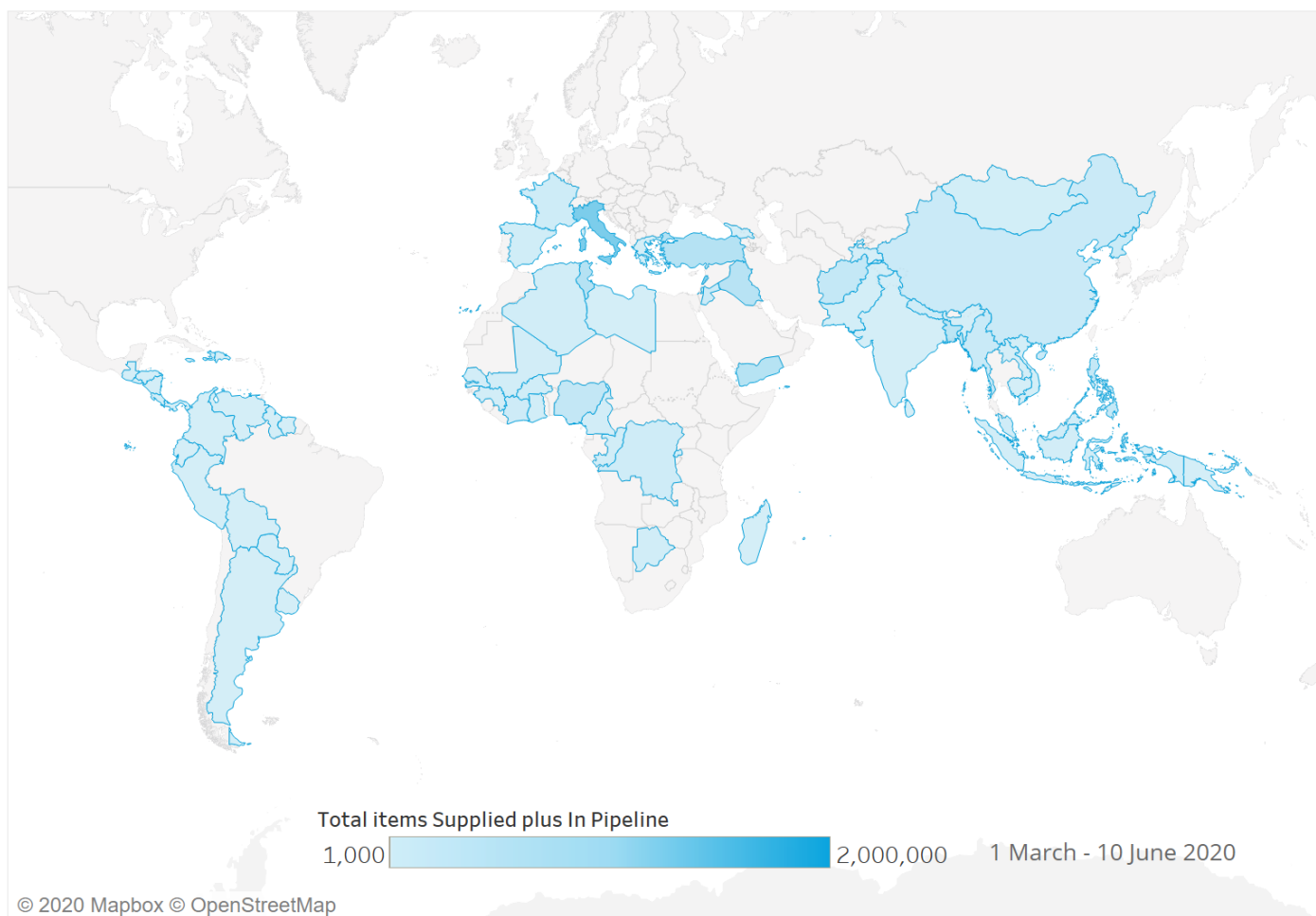
## Humanitarian Diplomacy

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, IFRC organized a follow-up call with National Societies and ICRC to discuss policy and humanitarian diplomacy (HD) activities and challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 Humanitarian Diplomacy Strategy and the Key Messages that focus on an effective public response, the prioritization of vulnerable communities, support of a local response, and support for concurrent crises, are currently being updated.

IFRC delivered a statement at the 73<sup>rd</sup> World Health Assembly calling on Member States to continue supporting humanitarian work in countries with fragile health settings, ensure equitable access to future COVID-19 vaccinations and to uphold their duty of care towards frontline health workers including volunteers.

## Supply Chain

### Locations - Goods Supplied or in Pipeline



### Federation-wide planning and reporting:

The **revised ask of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for COVID-19** was launched on 28 May, for a total amount of **CHF 3.1 billion** – Thanks to the data provided by National Societies on their funding requirements, the IFRC's combined domestic and international financial ask has reached **CHF 1.9 billion**, out of which **CHF 450 million is raised through the IFRC Secretariat** in support of National Societies. The revised Emergency Appeal highlights a continuous focus on the work of National Societies to deliver this response according to three operational priorities: sustaining health and WASH, addressing the socio-economic impact, and strengthening National Societies. The ICRC is appealing for **CHF 1.2 billion** for its response to COVID-19 and its broader impact on people affected by armed conflict and other situation of violence. **Data collection from National Societies** as part of Federation Wide Planning & Reporting continues, with COVID-19 field reports coming in daily. The [Fed-Wide 3Ws](#) is providing great insights into the sources and allocations of resources and support to the IFRC

### Interagency-coordination:

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Principals endorsed the IASC [Interim Guidance on Localisation](#) (co-led by IFRC and UNICEF), covering important topics such as Duty of Care, Principles of Partnership, revision of Coordination Structures and potential accountability for Humanitarian Coordinators to uphold Localisation commitments. Localisation remains a key topic of discussion across the IASC, with all IASC bodies meeting regularly and IFRC well represented, led by the Secretary General at the Principals level. The next revision of the UN led Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.

# Red Cross and Red Crescent activities by Region

## Asia Pacific

### Regional Update

#### Regional Overview

The IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) continues to provide guidance and coordination support to National Societies through five CCSTs and eight COs, with regular communications and coordination at all levels and through the fortnightly Joint Task Force (JTF) calls with the global headquarters in Geneva. APRO has been constantly monitoring the evolving situation in Asia and the Pacific and is actively keeping the region informed through the weekly Regional Task Force meetings with COs and CCSTs. In the same manner, CCSTs and COs have been constantly updating the APRO on the progresses in-country for preparedness measures, trends in the number of confirmed cases, governmental actions, and activities being implemented or planned by National Societies.

#### Health and Care

During this reporting period, the Asia Pacific Health team continue to support National Societies in their efforts to prepare, contain and mitigate the effects of widespread COVID-19 including secondary impact due to loss of income, violence, displacement, and quarantine.

Whilst COVID-19 manifests differently in each country based on rate of infection, exposure due to vulnerability and resources available, support is tailored based on needs and National Societies mandated role. Activities during the reporting period included enhancing availability of psychosocial support, health and hygiene promotion awareness, community-based surveillance, testing and contact tracing. The team also build knowledge through webinars on community-based surveillance and preparation for potential 'second wave' and supporting training to enable NS to have strengthened skills in supporting respective health authorities in surveillance, epidemic control, community-based health responses.

Technical support to clinical interventions continues with ongoing support to isolation and treatment centers to be established in Cox's Bazar and Dhaka, Bangladesh and Corona Hospital in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. The team is currently exploring similar support in Afghanistan. The Regional Health team worked closely with operation team to guide national societies to ensure COVID safe practices during disaster response. The Asia Pacific health team strengthened the PPE provision by working closely with Procurement and Logistics to establish reliable supply chains.

#### Livelihoods

The Asia Pacific Livelihoods Coordinator provided technical support to Afghanistan on COVID-19 Livelihoods Programme as the Afghan Red Crescent Society considered the production of face masks and protective gear (gown) by scaling up the women's empowerment livelihoods programme. The coordinator also provided technical guidance to Pakistan in the design of COVID-19 livelihoods recovery programme; gave technical support and feedback to countries with proposed COVID-19 livelihoods and food security programmes such as India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Maldives; and offered technical assistance in the planning on using cash assistance for Fiji, Philippines, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan

and India. At present, the Regional Livelihoods Coordinator is organizing the Asia Pacific COVID-19 Livelihoods Webinar on 18 June 2020, in close coordination with the Senior Food Security and Livelihoods Resilience Technical Adviser in Geneva and the Livelihoods Resource Center. The webinar aims to facilitate learning through sharing of experiences and good practice; provide information on available resources and what technical services and resources the reference center can offer to support the National Societies, especially in scaling up their early recovery and recovery livelihoods program. Two NS, the Philippine Red Cross and Afghanistan Red Crescent Society, are invited to share their approaches and good practice in COVID-19 Livelihoods Programming. Livelihoods Resources Center in Madrid is also invited to provide information on available resources.

### Migration and Displacement

During the reporting period, the Asia Pacific Migration and Displacement team provided regional coordination and technical guidance to NS to support migrants, refugees and IDPs at risk from COVID-19 and its impacts. This included:

- Ongoing **monitoring and analysis of regional developments**, trends and risks related to migration and displacement. Engaging in the **inter-agency regional thematic working group on migration**, refugees and COVID-19 (hosted by IOM).
- Ongoing **Movement coordination and cooperation** at the regional level (with the ICRC Regional Migration Advisor) and at the CCST and CO levels, especially on mutual areas including Restoring Family Links (RFL), Immigration, Detention, and aspects of Protection.
- **Technical support and guidance for the development of National Society plans to address the needs of migrants, refugees and IDPs** continues, focusing on support to Myanmar Red Cross, Bangladesh Red Crescent, Pakistan Red Crescent, Maldivian Red Crescent and Nepal Red Cross.
  - New Zealand Media: **Interviews with journalists in New Zealand, in partnership with the New Zealand Red Cross** for two media articles on the IFRC and BDRCS response in Cox's Bazar, connected to TC Amphan and COVID-19.
  - Coordination of **integrated support to Maldivian Red Crescent**, with shelter, cash, emergency health and MHPSS colleagues, related to the quarantine and detention of migrants in Maldives.
  - Supported the development and delivery of **training for Pakistan Red Crescent staff and volunteers (including refugee volunteers)** on the RCRC approach to migration and displacement in the context of COVID-19.
  - Coordinated the development of **guidance for AP National Societies on the Global Migration Strategy, the Manila Call for Action and connections with COVID-19 programming**. Coordination as part of shared leadership approach with Australian Red Cross.
  - Coordinated the **collection and sharing of relevant COVID-19 IEC materials for AP National Societies**. Coordination as part of a shared leadership approach with New Zealand Red Cross.
  - Coordinated the development of **new migration needs assessment guidance in the context of COVID-19**, with IFRC CO Pakistan and shared leadership with Australian Red Cross.
  - Coordination of **trafficking in persons into COVID-19 response in key priority contexts**, including Myanmar and the Mekong region, as part of a shared leadership approach with British Red Cross.
  - Supported the hosting of the **Myanmar RCM workshop on migration, displacement and COVID-19**, with the new MRCS Secretary General, representatives from the Executive Commitment and Movement partners.
  - Acted as project lead for **Thai Red Cross programme** to reach more than 400,000 migrants in Thailand as part of the COVID-19 response.

### Logistics

Under the global sourcing for PPE, 66% of the demand supplies for Asia Pacific had been secured and remaining 34% is expected to be covered by end of June. With close collaboration with the Operation and Health teams, the Logistics team initiated the exercise with CCSTs/COs to identify and define needs for the NSs for the potential second wave, long-term needs or even pre-positioning of COVID-related items (PPE, medical equipment and consumables etc). Deliveries of PPE shipments to countries in Asia Pacific by commercial transport, WFP free flight provision and potential collaboration with ECHO (Humanitarian Airbridge initiative).

However, restrictions on importation and availability of freight options in some receiving countries in the region. This has caused some delays in the deliveries of PPE and have interrupted the overall supply chain planning.

### Shelter and Urban Settlements

During the reporting period, the interim shelter and settlements focal point provided support to NS to address any shelter related needs arising from COVID-19. This included:

- Technical support and guidance, including sharing of relevant COVID-19 resources and recommendations, for the development of National Society plans that include shelter and settlements considerations in response and in preparedness to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- Ongoing monitoring and analysis of regional developments, trends, risk and emerging needs and working with technical counterparts in other regions to inform ongoing activities.
- Working with other technical leads (Migration and Displacement, Cash, Emergency Health, MHPSS) to address requests for integrated support (eg Maldivian Red Crescent).

## National Society Updates

### Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS)

Since March, ARCS teams have been mobilized in various fronts. To date, this engagement in the COVID-19 response includes: the finalization of a health detailed implementation plan with a target of 200,000 people to be reached with surveillance and risk communication activities, and 10% of the population through ARCS health facilities (continuity of health services combined to COVID-related activities and PSS).

A large procurement has been initiated by ARCS to turn its district hospital in Kabul into a medicalized isolation center for infected people (50 beds). Technical support for case management has been provided by ICRC. A total of 242,000 individuals have been screened by eight mobile health teams across 10 provinces; more than 123,000 people have been reached through awareness raising and risk communication activities (38,250 male/14,184 female); 292 suspected cases were found and 109 individuals were referred to the COVID-19 hospitals.

ARCS community volunteers have conducted awareness raising and risk communication regarding COVID-19 in 31 provinces: 470,000 people (287,000 males, 183,000 females) were reached by 4,066 volunteers (3,388 males, 678 females). A three-month detailed implementation plan has been completed with a target of 12,000 households (84,000 people) for food or livelihoods support, while more than 28,000 people have received food since the beginning of the operation, including 1,700 households in Bamyán and Gazni provinces. Food and NFIs have been distributed to 9,419 people in Kapisa, Samangan and Baghlan provinces, while food was distributed in Kabul during Ramadan with the support of Qatar and Turkish Red Crescent.

The selection of 5,647 households have been started in targeted locations i.e. Kabul, Kandahar, Herat and Ghazni. The associated food procurement has been started and will be completed early June. A total of 2,000 people has been selected in Balkh province for cash distribution.

### Australian Red Cross (ARC)

ARC's humanitarian response to COVID-19 has worked to flatten the curve of the spread of COVID-19 and has helped people cope with the psychosocial impacts of COVID-19. Psychosocial support has been provided through emergency relief to migrants on temporary visas; psychological first aid phone outreach to more than 7000 people experiencing self-isolation or mandatory quarantine; development of a social chat call service for the broader population of people experiencing social-isolation due to COVID-19 restrictions; wellbeing kits provided to people in mandatory hotel isolation, advocated to government on psychosocial impacts; developed resources and training to build capability of community organizations to support their clients facing increased vulnerability; and public information activities to encourage people to help flatten the curve and cope with the impacts.

ARC has also mobilized funding and technical support to the IFRC global appeal and ARC partner national societies, and influenced the Australian government and humanitarian sector to take global action and strengthen global solidarity in response to COVID-19 and its impacts.

### Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)

BDRCS, with support from IFRC and PNSs, continue to address the threat of cyclones amidst the spread of COVID-19. During this period, Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) camp volunteers were engaged in cyclone preparedness initiatives under the guidance of CPP/BDRCS/American Red Cross and site management agencies. Following the

aftermath of Cyclone Amphan, BDRCS with its National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) in coordination with CPP camp volunteers, site management and other camp actors, conducted rapid damage assessments in the camps. The team also continued to monitor the situation and provide updates through the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC).

To manage the threat of cyclone season amidst COVID-19, BDRCS, with support from IFRC and American Red Cross, plans to distribute PPEs, including vests, raincoats, gum boots, helmets, hand torches and life jackets to the CPP camp volunteers. BDRCS, IFRC and American Red Cross in consultation with the CPP Cox's Bazar office and Site Management Support Agencies (SMS) are now mapping PPE needs required to support the broader camp volunteer groups and host community volunteers for the upcoming months. These PPE sets will strengthen the capacity of the volunteers, so that they can be mobilized to support the communities during monsoon with adequate personal protection. Close coordination is underway for this purpose with ISCG, UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF and UNDP.

During the period under review, BDRCS, with support from IFRC and PNSs, reached 20,993 people in the camp settlements through the implementation of COVID-19 preparedness and response activities. BDRCS mobilized 632 staff and volunteers (455 community volunteers and 20 Red Crescent volunteers). Priorities in the weeks ahead are to continue the COVID-19 preparedness and providing treatment to the infected persons through the IITC.

### **Bhutan Red Cross Society (BRCS)**

During the reporting period, BRCS has been tasked by the Health Emergency Management Committee to take the lead in dead body management. The NS had trained 854 volunteers on dead body management across 30 branches and 374 volunteers are based in four of high-risk branches (Thimphu, Mongar, Sarpang and Phuntsholing). BRCS is also supporting the government with PPEs. BRCS have equipped their volunteers with PPE for those on duty.

### **Brunei Red Crescent Society (BRC)**

BRC has been appointed by the Ministry of Health to coordinate the organization of all volunteers and logistics. During the reporting period, BRC has been at the frontline of operations, deploying volunteers to respective hospitals and health centers to organize the distribution of donations and meals at the isolation center. The NS was also requested by the MoH to provide transport to transfer patients from the airport to isolation facilities, when needed. A total of 250 volunteers have been trained and deployed to provide basic first aid and assist in the screening process, taking temperatures of visitors and accompanying Bruneian returnees to the isolation center under supervision of hospital staff.

### **Cambodian Red Cross (CRC)**

In close collaboration and coordination with the local authorities and local health departments of all municipality-provinces (25), CRC and its 25 Red Cross branches (RCBs) have actively mobilized staff, volunteers, and Red Cross Youths (RCYs) together with communities to take the immediate concrete actions on the COVID-19 prevention and control measure. The CRC's weekly update covers the period of May 25-31 for the COVID-19 pandemic response intervention. The request authorization for printing IEC materials and purchasing hygiene kits (hand gels and soaps) with financial support of ICRC and IFRC have been approved by CRC senior management. All 25 RCBs have continuously disseminated the key COVID-19 preventive messages through home-visits, public mobile loudspeakers, and mainstreaming with core activities of all 25 RCBs. People/beneficiaries reached between 25-31 May were 14,440 persons (8,553 female, 5,887 male) in 260 places of 13 provinces. These also included 4,227 migrant workers who received the 3,868 leaflets of Safety Migration were reached by these promotion activities.

Available IEC/hygiene materials been used including: 22 units of PVC banners of COVID-19 prevention and hand washing; 722 COVID-19 posters on prevention and hand washing; 2,437 flyers of COVID-19 prevention and hand washing; 10 loud-speakers have been used for key messages dissemination; 1,865 pieces of soap; 5,910 face masks; 96 liters and 101 bottles of alcohol; 684 units of krama (local scarfs provided by the government); 1,072 T-shirts provided by RC branches; 3,868 leaflets of Safety Migration; and 54 units of hand gel (Svay Rieng RCB).

Through distance technical support/information sharing (tele-conference and phone communication), the Emergency Health Sub-Department team keeps follow up/progress coaching and strongly encourage them to complete their activities and providing on-time reports to NHQ. Through these meeting, the clearance working advance documents were carefully checked and finalized for clearing with CRC-accounting sub-department according to the provided deadline. The orientation of COVID-19 information has been shared and updated to all 25 RC branches during the meeting. CRC Health Department keeps daily updating the figure of COVID-19 affected cases, recovered and death cases (globally and domestically) in order to share the worldwide-information to CRC leadership and all 25 RCBs.

## Cook Islands Red Cross (CIRC)

The Cook Islands Red Cross is part of the National Health Emergency Task Force (NHET), leading the country's COVID-19 response. Staff and volunteers have been allocated to the three VAKAS (community group that has several villages and districts) to carry out COVID-19 messaging. The IFRC CCST Pacific office has been providing technical support to the CIRC remotely from its regional office in Suva, Fiji.

## Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK RCS)

The local procurement of first aid materials, bicycles and loudspeakers for frontline RC volunteers, reaching the wider population with quality health service with focus on the elderly, children and those with underlying illnesses is progressing. Along with the emergency preparedness against COVID-19, DPRK RCS is also implementing its life-saving health programme in the target communities of the Integrated Community Resilience Programme (ICRP), which includes regular monitoring and evaluation of the actual needs, RC health services, and community feedback. Thirty-six sets of PPE (comprised of masks, hand sterilizer, soap, gown and gloves) were procured and distributed to RC branches in the target areas, while the delivery of crucial health items including rt-PCR, reagent, RNA kit, and infrared thermometer has reached the final stage.



*Discussion regarding key messages and the effective way of COVID-19 health promotion between household doctor and RC volunteer in Sinyang County, South Phyongan Province, May 2020. Photo by: DPRK RCS*

For the spring farming season, RC volunteers will focus on highlighting the importance of frequent and proper hand washing, boiling water for drinking, mask wearing, physical distancing and disinfection so that the whole community is engaged.

International procurement of family hygiene kits, WATA chlorine producing devices<sup>[1]</sup>, jerry cans, water purification tablets and household water filters is in process for WASH interventions. Local procurement of plastic containers for WATA and publishing of WATA user manual was completed by mid-May and will be ready for distribution once the devices arrive in the country.

The support for the RC training room in Onjong-ri of Songchon County, South Phyongan Province is under progress as the capacity building of volunteer training in the community. This activity is to help the community have access to the distance education system through domestic network.

The NS is improving four training rooms to enhance training sessions. The preparation for establishment of the NS Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) continues progressing as planned. The EOC will not only enhance the disaster response capacity of the NS but also the business continuity in the serious pandemic crisis such as COVID-19. Currently, the government donated 1.3 hectares of land to DPRK RCS for the EOC and the NS is in process of preparing for land utilization.

A total of 593,285 beneficiaries (308,508 female, 284,777 male) or 21% of the target beneficiaries (2,823,747) have been reached to date.

<sup>[1]</sup> WATA is a technological device that uses simple and manageable process of electrolysis to convert a measure of salt and water into sodium hypochlorite. The resulting solution can be used for drinking water chlorination or as a disinfectant for use in households, hospitals or community clinics.

## Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS)

The FRCS response has been focused on COVID-19 health and hygiene messaging. Staff and volunteers have been (and continue to be) trained on basic COVID-19 information for community messaging. Hand washing and behavioral change videos were developed, translated into the four main languages, and shared on social media and with city councils to be played on advertisement screens. The FRCS also provided tents for mobile clinics.

### **Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS)**

IRCS has continued to focus on ensuring regular blood supply in its blood banks; providing counselling for social distancing; providing counselling to prevent further spread of the virus; and offering PSS counselling to ensure people who have been affected by the virus are not stigmatized. IRCS has also undertaken advocacy related to COVID-19 (hand washing, social distancing).

IRCS has also been involved in specific state pilot projects in the area of livelihoods, where measures have been taken to avoid further spread of the pandemic and to provide support to the vulnerable communities (the elderly, women-headed households, individuals with chronic illnesses). The NS has also distributed dry ration, cooked food, medicine, masks, gloves, sanitizers, soap, and PPE Kits.

### **Indonesian Red Cross Society (PMI)**

PMI COVID-19 response operations have been conducted in 34 provinces and 367 PMI districts/cities all over Indonesia. PMI has continued to conduct health promotion, providing masks and hygiene kits at urban and grassroots levels to communities in suburbs and villages across all provinces.

The NS has also disseminated IEC materials such as 66 digital posters, leaflets and banners; 8 videos on COVID-19 information tutorials on using masks properly, hand washing, sneezing/coughing, self-isolation, home care, PSS, ambulance cleaning, disinfection, and PPE; and updated information on steps to conduct self-disinfectant activities.

PMI's Bogor Hospital is continuing to coordinate with The Health Office of Bogor City and West Java Province on COVID-19 case reporting.

Since the start of the operation, 53,432 locations have been sanitized benefitting 27,993,662 people; 2,496,906 people have been reached through health promotions; 437,133 people have received health services; 186 people have been provided with ambulance services; 3,718 people received PSS services; 3 people received RFL support; and 1,070,033 people received the distribution of 3,678 units of sprayer. Other items procured and distributed by PMI includes hazmat suits (12,916); N95 masks (18,705); rubber gloves (4,898); surgical gloves (1,032,572); hygiene kits (599,650); body bags (251); food packages (56,152); face shields (1,070); and sanitation chemicals (489,860).

### **Japan Red Cross Society (JRCS)**

Over 30 volunteer corps have actively involved in making masks, face shields, gowns for supporting the Red Cross Hospitals and other medical facilities in their areas. Additionally, one volunteer corps regularly made phone calls to the elderly people in their community to check their condition.

JRCS has launched the #最前線にエールを何度でも campaign, which encourages the general public to send hearty cheers to medical staff working in the frontline with the hashtag. <http://campaign.jrc.or.jp/nandodemo/>. In Himeji, the community volunteer corps collaborated with flower shops and gave roses and letters of appreciation to the Himeji Red Cross Hospital.

Following the lift of the state of emergency, schools have restarted gradually. Many schools are using the "3 Faces Guide" produced by JRCS to teach children how they can be free from fear and stigma of COVID-19.

### **Kiribati Red Cross Society (KRCS)**

As the country has recorded no positive cases, KRCS activities has been focused on health and hygiene messaging. The IFRC CCST Pacific office in Suva, Fiji, continues to provide technical support to the KRCS.

### **Republic of Korea National Red Cross (KNRC)**

The NS has been sharing COVID-19 IEC materials (hand washing, mask wearing) and guidelines (health and safety for staff and volunteers).

### **Lao Red Cross (LRC)**

During the reporting period, the LRC leadership and IFRC CCST agreed on IFRC supporting LRC's efforts in scaling up awareness raising activities targeting tourists and local people through the distribution of leaflets, posters and health education. The interventions will also target school children in four provinces of Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Champasak and Savannaket.

IFRC will provide support for preparedness measures and the training of LRC staff and volunteers and the key messages that need to be communicated. It will also include contingency and business continuity planning to help National Societies to continue to provide lifesaving services as the outbreak evolves. LRC will enhance coordination with public health authorities at national and local levels and undertake awareness sessions in communities including those that are particularly vulnerable to epidemics due to poor hygiene and sanitation conditions.

### **Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS)**

Since the start of the pandemic (end of January), MRCS has been focusing on preparedness and prevention. The NS has been providing PSS to foreign citizens who are stranded in the country due to the closure of the borders, as well as providing PSS services to Malaysians who were evacuated from Wuhan, China. MRCS has also been complementing the MoH in prevention activities and public awareness.

The activities MRCS continues to undertake include training of staff and volunteers on COVID-19 preventive measures; providing ambulance services for transporting COVID and non-COVID patients; supporting public health facilities by mobilizing staff and volunteers with medical backgrounds to augment the capacity of a local hospital, distributed PPEs, 12 ventilators and other medical equipment around the country; and providing services to the homeless and migrants. For the latter, MRCS has provided food packages to homeless people in the south of the country as well as to migrant workers in Kuala Lumpur. MRCS also has plans to augment the provision of services to migrants in East Malaysia (the state of Sabah) as agreed with the public authorities.

### **Maldives Red Crescent (MRC)**

MRC's volunteers continue to provide information on good hygiene practices, recognizing symptoms, and encouraging the public to call the hotline set up by the Health Protection Agency (HPA). Migrant workers are being reached through multi-lingual messages via IEC materials dissemination and through mobile vehicles with loudspeakers attached giving out the audio messages. Outreach sessions were held in collaboration with HPA, with the help of migrant volunteers, to ensure that those hardest to reach had access to this critical health information. PSS continues to be provided by MRC through its COVID-19 PSS Center to those who are in quarantine or isolation. PSS volunteers are equipped with the knowledge on tending to psychological needs and rebuilding or maintaining social structures, after a stressful or traumatic event. Cases are tended to, based on Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) where those who require professional help are being referred. Approximately 40 PSS volunteers are currently supporting the MRC COVID-19 PSS operations.

MRC has set up an outreach and information dissemination center to intensify risk communication and community engagement activities. This center had been carrying out media monitoring and flag misinformation and information gaps.

Nationwide assessment on migrant living quarters has also been rolled out; MRC is working closely with the Local Government Authority of the Maldives. A Migrant Support Center has been established by MRC Male' Branch that provides emergency meal packs, distribute hygiene kits and run a helpline for migrants who are going through economic hardships and are in difficult circumstances due to the outbreak. During this period, the Migrant Support Center has provided 72,844 meals distributed to over 127 households, reaching to over 3,292 migrants. A total of 286 hygiene kits have also been dispatched and 1,364 emergency meal packs (dry food with fruits and drinks) have also been dispatched. MRC is supporting with other response agencies in organizing mobile medical clinics targeted to migrant population in the capital. Assessments of living quarters, quarantine facilities are also being carried out. In order to provide undocumented migrants, the necessary humanitarian services, MRC has been issuing beneficiary cards, which can be used to access health care and other available services.

### **Marshall Islands Red Cross Society (MIRCS)**

MIRCS's radio programme on the national station (V7AB) has included COVID-19 awareness topics such as handwashing, and epidemic and pandemic control. The NS has conducted outreach and awareness on COVID-19 and early warning

systems at Jeirok community, and with local women at the local food markets. MIRCS had deployed two COVID-19 outreach teams and FA trainers to Ebadon and Mejatto (Kwajalein Atoll), and an outreach team and FA trainers to Utrik Atoll. The NS had continued its COVID-19 awareness and hygiene promotion on Jaluit Atoll.

MIRCS has also finalized the mental health awareness tool in coordination with MOHHS, IOM, and Marshall Islands Epidemiology Prevention Initiative.

### **Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS)**

MRCS continues to work in partnership with the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) government and the four states government in FSM. As a partner in all states in FSM, MRCS is supporting the response by filling the gap for the government. MRCS continues to lead the community outreach activities and is also supporting the government by providing hand washing stations in all the states. MRCS staff and volunteers have continued to lead the four states in hand washing campaign by conducting house-to-house visits, demonstrating the proper ways of hand washing and distributing hand washing posters.

### **Mongolia Red Cross Society (MRCS)**

MRCS participated in a COVID-19 drill, complete with the lockdown of an entire district, to gauge its readiness for a real outbreak. During the drill, several designated stores in the district practiced social distancing by asking people to enter their stores one by one. Businesses were asked to deliver food or groceries, stand at a distance and receive payments through cashless bank transfers. The Red Cross practiced delivering food rations to the elderly and the disabled.

### **Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS)**

During the reporting period, risk communication, community engagement (RCCE) public awareness sessions were conducted using the community engagement and accountability (CEA) approach in 200 townships throughout the country by using hand speakers, loudspeakers, or mobile amplifiers. References to the health education materials were reprinted or adapted from the Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS). According to the reported data received, MRCS reached 58,050 people with health awareness, information sharing and community campaigns with their engagement. IEC materials (posters, stickers, DVDs) for various COVID-19 messages were distributed and verbal dissemination of messages were also conducted at public places in each location. Audio messages produced by MOHS were disseminated among the public through MRCS volunteers. RCCE was also conducted in camp settings, such as in Kachin and Rakhine States. Furthermore, MRCS conducted community risk education and community engagement via social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Through Facebook, the awareness can be expected to reach an audience of over 2,000.

MRCS provided fever screening activities at check points; disinfectant spraying; community-based surveillance activities and home-based quarantine observation; household data collection activities for requirement of food supplies support for home quarantine period during Thingyan (religious) holidays; and patient referral activities (this include both referring a person with suspicious symptoms).

An amount of MMK 500,000 (approximately CHF 336) was transferred to 45 townships along the country's border area as the Township Emergency Management Fund (EMF) during the reporting period.

To date, a total of 329 staff and 1,443 RCVs all over the country have been covered by health insurance for COVID-19. MRCS is planning to provide health insurance coverage for more RCVs in the coming weeks.

### **Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS)**

NRCS has continued the coordination with the government ministries, and other stakeholders. As guided by HQ, the project team in district chapters and communities have been participating in meetings organized by the government, assisting in awareness raising activities, health desks, providing various support such as NFI provision and WASH stations in quarantine sites. NRCS is carrying out risk communication activities within the organization as well as in community. NRCS has finalized the district need assessment for COVID-19 in coordination with IFRC, PNSs and ICRC; the report has been finalized.

The NRCS Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has been activated since 10 February with volunteers and staff tracking actions taken by province, district and sub-chapters on risk communication and institutional preparedness on a daily basis. As of 3 June, a total of 93 situation reports have been issued and shared widely with government authorities, district chapters, UN agencies, donors as well as Movement partners. The data shows active engagement at local level in the 77 districts of the country, although with various coverage from location to location given existing local capacities and resources. More than 647,633 IEC materials such as pamphlets, flex, stickers, flyers, brochures, banners, etc. have been distributed in the communities, while 262,760 personal protective items (masks, gloves, hazmat suits, boots, air-tight goggles) have been distributed by the headquarters and local chapters. In addition, 6,649 people have been reached through the hygiene promotion activities such as hand washing demonstration and practical sessions.



*NRCS youth volunteers during an online meeting. Photo: NRCS HQs*

A total of 1,164 RCRC volunteers have been mobilized since the start of the operation in health desk support, awareness campaigns, and hygiene promotion, while 350 hygiene kits have been distributed mostly in quarantine sites and 848 people received PSS. In addition, 134 people received training on Psychological First Aid (PFA) through the online being conducted by NRCS through its online learning platform. As of 3 June 2020, 438 calls have been received and addressed through NRCS related to COVID-19. NRCS has broadcasted at least 128 episodes of radio programmes related to COVID-19, in collaboration with FM stations operating in various locations of the country.

NRCS has been involved in Restoring Family Links support. NRCS has supported 386 body bags to the police, army, Dhulikhel hospital and Armed Police Force hospital. Similarly, NRCS supported 75 people who came back from India and were kept in quarantine with mobile phone balance which has helped them to in touch with their family members. Similarly, NRCS have trained 63 people on PGI to insure the PGI component in the COVID-19 response and preparedness. Additionally, 3,500 people entering to Nepal from adjoining land border to India were supported with ready to eat food and water. As of 5 June 2020, NRCS has supported 382 tents, 1,753 tarpaulins, 12,454 blankets, 3,189 mosquito nets and 1,645 mattresses to various quarantine sites.

### **New Zealand Red Cross Society (NZRCS)**

During the reporting period, NZRCS launched 'Welcome to My World', a humanitarian leadership project, on Facebook Live. Occurring over the course of five weeks, the project incorporates considerations around COVID-19 and aims to raise young future leaders' awareness, knowledge and understanding of various humanitarian challenges and responses across the globe, and the role that International Humanitarian Law plays in humanitarian action across the globe in New Zealand's response to COVID-19.

NZRCS has continued to provide Meals on Wheels (MoW) in 33 locations across the country. The NZRCS Migration Programmes are comprised of the Pathways to Settlement, Pathways to Employment, Restoring Family Links, Refugee Trauma Recovery, Settlement Youth Work programme and Open Road Refugee Driver Training. In late May, NZRCS plans to distribute "Red Cross Parcels" nationwide to its Migration Programmes clients and to Meals on Wheels recipients who are currently supported by the national society.

### **Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS)**

PRCS provided emergency support by dispatching 10 Medical Support Vehicles with volunteers and logistic support at quarantine centers at the Iran and Afghan borders along with key entry points in major cities, i.e. Islamabad, Karachi and Lahore. The first screening camp of the Government of Baluchistan at the Pakistan-Iran border - Torkham was facilitated by PRCS volunteers to screen pilgrims and facilitate transfer of suspected cases to quarantine facilities established at the border. PRCS mobilized volunteers and health staff at Peshawar and Karachi Railway Stations for the screening of passengers (over 20,000 people were screened by PRCS staff and volunteers). A total of 50 volunteers have received basic training on screening and isolation protocols at quarantine facilities.

A Corona Crisis Management Unit established at NHQ and all 7 PHQ has so far referred 1,376 suspected cases to designated facilities. A 24/7 Virtual Call Centre at NHQ and an AHAGI Call Centre in Sindh were established to provide Coronavirus-related information to the callers. A total of 2,136 PPEs and 49,150 N95 masks have been distributed at government health facilities.

PRCS is implementing health surveillance, health promotion awareness and education, and service delivery of integrated Primary Health Care (PHC) services through 25 Basic Health Units (BHUs) in Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces. In addition to these health facilities, PRCS is also conducting Mobile Health Camps at Pak-Afghan bordering districts in Baluchistan with the help of District Health Authorities. Screening of suspected cases and referral system has been established through these mobile camps.

In the wake of rapid increase in the numbers of COVID-19 patients and a dearth of facilities, and as requested by the government and Ministry of Health, PRCS has converted its health facility into specialized 'Corona Care Hospital' in Rawalpindi. The facility has a 10-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with 9 ventilators and 110-bedded isolation wards to manage mild to moderate cases of COVID-19. Qualified medical professionals from the government hospital remain on call and trained team of paramedics are providing services at the facility which has so far attended 70 cases. The hospital is working in coordination with MoH, NIHS and Rawalpindi District Authorities and receive confirmed positive cases and refer vis-a-vis to the Holy Family Government Hospital. PRCS ICU unit is not functional due to lack of availability of medical specialist on permanent basis therefore any critical case in need of ventilator is referred to the government hospital. PRCS is also providing WATSAN and hygiene services at quarantine centers established by the government at Pak-Afghan border and PRCS Health facility in Gawadar, Baluchistan. Its teams have so far distributed 6,634 hygiene kits of the general population and quarantine facilities in KP.

#### **Palau Red Cross Society (PRCS)**

During the period under review, 100 sets of hygiene kits were distributed to the households of Ngaraard and Ngarchelong. An additional 65 sets of hygiene kits have been purchased and are prepared for distribution. Procurement and inventory of PPE and medical consumables and distribution to staff and volunteers for COVID-19 response continued. PPE request has been sent through to the CCST Logistics office in Suva, Fiji.

#### **Papua New Guinea Red Cross (PNGRC)**

PNGRC has been raising awareness and engaging in community awareness in all provinces. With the evolution of the pandemic, PNGRC has provided support to the Department of Health (DoH) through staff and volunteers to prepare for cases imported to the country in order to be able to respond quickly, appropriately and effectively. In its continuation of responding to the epidemic, PNGRC will support DoH in rapid containment of localized outbreaks as they occur. The NS will also support DoH in mitigating the health and social impacts of large-scale outbreaks.

#### **Philippines Red Cross (PRC)**

PRC's actions on prevention, preparedness and response for COVID-19 are being implemented under the following pillars: 1) Surveillance; 2) Support to Healthcare Systems and Authorities; 3) Community Action; and 4) Business Continuity. During the reporting period, PRC's "Helpline (1158)" has been established to take calls related to COVID-19. It is operational 24/7 and run by PSS-trained volunteers, who will provide information and advice to callers. As PRC opened its molecular laboratories, the helpline received an average of 200 calls per day seeking for guidance regarding results of COVID-19 testing. PRC has three operating molecular laboratories in Metro Manila. The labs have tested 94,941 specimens which comprise 26% of the national test output in the Philippines.

PRC ambulances are continuously mobilized to support the Department of Health (DOH) with the transportation of suspected and confirmed with COVID-19 individuals. As part of their overarching improving the response capacity, six units of negative pressure ambulances, medical isolation and transportation units have been utilized to support COVID-19 infected patients. PPE for ambulance crews and training of ambulance crew as well as ambulance running costs (fuel and maintenance) are being covered by partners. PRC has set up 59 medical field tents and isolation wards in different parts of the country. The DOH has asked PRC to provide tents to hospitals to ensure that COVID-19 patients are isolated from patients who are not carriers of the virus.

WASH interventions are prioritized in different places in the country, specifically the installation of handwashing stations at markets, transportation hubs, parks and at PRC Chapters and medical facilities, and for some Chapters in informal settlements. Awareness sessions continue to be conducted in communities, including those that are particularly

vulnerable to epidemics due to poor hygiene and sanitation conditions. The sessions include messages of physical distancing and other mitigation measures that can be taken to reduce the risk of transmission. PRC partnered with IFRC, ICRC, American Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross and UNICEF to implement WASH activities in various parts of the country. The pilot of the cash assistance interventions is being conducted in Metro Manila, which includes an assessment and feasibility study, risk management for cash assistance, establishment of the MEB, pilot disbursements of multipurpose cash grants, and an evaluation.

The PRC NHQ units and all 103 active Chapters across the country has adapted to the new norm. This includes adjusting measures to ensure the continuity of the 81 blood service facilities and one dialysis center that are being operated by the NS. PRC has identified a roster of staff to work from the office, which has reduced the number of personnel working from its NHQ and at Chapter level, as well as enforcing protocols to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in its offices.

### **Samoa Red Cross Society (SRCS)**

SRCS continues to conduct household outreach for WASH and health needs, as well as hygiene promotion with young people at home. SRCS has procured PPE and WASH supplies which are ready to be dispatched. The NS has facilitated home-care isolation; distributed IEC materials; raised public health awareness through TV programmes; organized trainings for volunteers on WHO's COVID-19 technical guidance; and conducted blood donor recruitment.

### **Singapore Red Cross Society (SRCS)**

SRCS continues to respond to the needs of vulnerable groups affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, with priority placed on older people, homeless people and migrant workers. The NS supports these groups through its [ElderAid](#), [Family LifeAid](#), Home Monitoring and Eldercare ([HoME+](#)) and Medical Chaperone and Transport (MCT) service, which is also known as [TransportAid](#).

### **Solomon Islands Red Cross Society (SIRCS)**

To date, there has been no reported cases of COVID-19 in the country. The IFRC CCST Pacific office in Suva, Fiji, continues to provide technical support to the SIRCS. Since the activation of all the National Disaster Operation Committee (N-DOC sector committees) and those in the provincial level, SIRCS as an auxiliary agency to the Government has been supportive by engaging in all planning processes on COVID-19 as well as liaising with other relevant stakeholders.

### **Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS)**

SLRCS has been focusing its COVID-19 response on three key strategies: social behavioral change communication; direct support to the public authorities; and staff and volunteer care. SLRCS's COVID-19 interventions was conducted in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health at the national and district levels, and with the Movement partners (IFRC and ICRC) at the national level.

Psychosocial support (PSS) has also been made available for all staff and volunteers, as well as for beneficiaries. To prevent the cascading effect of the pandemic, SLRCS donated 2,000 sets of standard PPE as well as 600 essential complete personal protection gears to hospitals (National Institute of Infectious Diseases; Homagama Base Hospital; Karapitya Teaching Hospital; and Pandora Base Hospital). SLRCS also donated essential medical masks to the Ministry of Health at the central level.

As the number of active clusters have been dropped to one, SLRCS has been focusing on raising awareness across all layers of the social ecology through its social behavioral change campaign, in order that the messages of prevention and best WASH practices are being disseminated to each layer of society. SLRCS volunteers have been deployed across the county for awareness raising, while the Covid-19 Transmission Risk Reduction in the workplace and school preparedness are also being put in place to ensure the country is prepared for the possibility of a second wave.

### **Thai Red Cross Society (TRCS)**

TRCS, along with IFRC, the Migrant Working Group (MWG) and UNICEF, is scaling up its efforts in reaching the vulnerable population through cloth mask production and distribution. The vulnerable population targeted by TRCS is the migrant population, which receive little to no attention within the country. To mitigate this, TRCS has produced videos on COVID-

19 prevention and protection and these videos have been translated into Burmese, Khmer and Vietnamese so that migrants in Thailand can access key COVID-19 prevention messages.

TRCS is in the process of producing hygiene items and IEC materials for risk communication and health promotion. TRCS has started the competitive bidding process for the procurement of two units of 4-bedded mobile blood drive buses. These mobile blood drive buses will be used to access small communities in remote areas. Overall, TRCS aims to produce and distribute 1,000,000 cloth masks. The first order of cloth masks is scheduled to be received on June 6 and TRCS aims to start distributing the cloth masks to migrants located in Samut Sakhon Province on June 16. The TRCS has produced IEC materials that will be distributed to TRCS Chapters and Health Station based on request.

### **Timor-Leste Red Cross Society (CVTL)**

CVTL has continued its effort to disseminate information on the COVID-19 pandemic to the community in rural and urban areas. The NS has distributed 5,200 posters on COVID-19 prevention to 13 municipalities. CVTL has provided buckets for handwashing to 173 households in several villages; installed and monitored five hand washing facilities in Baucau Municipality; distributed 50 masks to the National Police of East Timor (PNTL); and collaborated with UNICEF to provide pyjamas and kimono for patients and health workers in isolation sites. CVTL has also conducted meetings with Radio-Televisão Timor Leste (RTTL) to collaborate on a talk show programme and videos related to the COVID-19 response. The NS had also participated in the RCCE Asia Pacific Webinar as well as the webinar conducted by PMI on community-based volunteers' role and action in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

CVTL conducting the Epidemic Control online training for volunteers and staff in all 13 branches; the training was participated by 86 people. CVTL held a meeting with Scout President (Uni Nasional Kepanduan Timor Leste) to discuss any possible collaboration in response to the COVID-19 operation; had discussions with IRI to further support CVTL staff on how to use virtual tools for working and meetings; and continued the construction of the Bairro Famosa Health Post and CVTL warehouse in Dili. The NS also finalized the translation of the WASH assessment and continued to print and conduct the assessment of all quarantine facilities. The NS organized 10 volunteers (five male, five female) to conduct the KoBo collection survey. Previously, the volunteers collected 150 surveys in Taibesi Market, Timor Plaza, and Largo Lecidere Park.

### **Tonga Red Cross Society (TRCS)**

As there has been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country, TRCS's response has been focused on health and hygiene messaging. TRCS is also providing continuous updates to the general public, informing on restrictions and processes that are related to COVID-19 through its Facebook page. The IFRC is providing remote technical support for TRCS from the CCST Pacific office in Suva, Fiji.

### **Tuvalu Red Cross (TRC)**

TRC has worked in partnership with the Department of Public Health in providing community awareness outreach programmes, training of volunteers in COVID-19 preparedness and prevention, and working with passengers under a compulsory 14-day quarantine. The NS has been working in partnership with the Department of Health in printing and laminating of IEC materials for community awareness campaigns; conducting community awareness campaigns; distribution of IEC materials to all households on Funafuti and public places such as shops, offices and banks; COVID-19 training for volunteers; COVID-19 training for volunteers working as cooks, cleaners and drivers for passengers who have been quarantined for the compulsory minimum 14 days. The TRC volunteers have been working alongside staff of the Department of Public Health to ensure that there is no physical contact between the quarantined passengers and members of the public. The volunteers have also been manning the information desk, providing COVID-19 information, at the Princess Margaret Hospital. TRC has also conducted radio awareness on Radio Tuvalu in partnership with the Department of Public Health and continuous radio spots on Tuvalu promoting COVID-19 prevention key messages.

TRC has incorporated the minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies at all stages in the COVID-19 response ensuring that all members of the community are reached.

TRC has also been working with the National Disaster Management Office on ways to mitigate food shortages.

### **Vanuatu Red Cross Society (VRCS)**

VRCS has developed both its COVID-19 contingency plan and continuity plan. The NS has continued its community health and hygiene awareness by delivering health and hygiene training for all staff members and volunteers, including

training of trainers (ToT) for 15 volunteers and 18 staff. VRCS has worked closely with the Vanuatu government through NDMO and the Health Cluster to ensure it provides effective coordination of health and hygiene awareness activities in Vanua-lava, Torba Province; Pentecost, Ambae and Maewo in Penama Province; Santo, Sanma Province; Malekula, Malampa Province; Efate, Shefa Province; and Tanna, Tafea Province.

VRCS has continued to maintain stock update on a daily and weekly basis, to ensure essential materials and tools are provided to all Red Cross branch officers and volunteers. -

### **Viet Nam Red Cross Society (VNRC)**

VNRC conducted one training of trainers (ToT) course on epidemic control for volunteers (ECV) for 25 participants from Hanoi and Lao Cai (Hanoi 15, Lao Cai 10). Participants learned about COVID-19, communication skills and participatory teaching methods. The participants will lead eight ECV training courses in Ha Noi and Lao Cai in June. More ToT courses and ECV training will be conducted in other provinces.

VNRC collaborated with the National Centre for Information Communication and Education and the Ministry of Health in the development and delivery of the ECV training curriculum. VNRC is planning 10 training on beneficiary targeting for cash assistance to take place over the month of June in the provinces of Lào Cai, Quảng Ninh, Hồ Chí Minh, Bình Thuận, Khánh Hòa, Quảng Nam, Đà Nẵng, Thừa Thiên, Huế, Hà Nội and Ninh Bình. The beneficiary selection process will start after the training sessions have been conducted.

VNRC is working on designing IEC materials and developing a script for a video on COVID-19 prevention. The team continues to design weekly infographics on VNRC response to COVID-19. The VNRC website and online magazine have a column dedicated to COVID-19. A total of 106 news, videos and documents on COVID-19 have been posted on the website and 346 news, videos and pictures have been shared on VNRC fan page.

Thwteam is gathering quotations for the procurement of hand soap, hand sanitization gel and face masks. VNRC is preparing the equipment needed to set up nCoV epidemic prevention and communication points at Red Cross facilities.

VNRC has also started the procurement process for 1400 polo shirts that will be distributed to their volunteers. VNRC is currently recruiting a consultant to update the VNRC pandemic preparedness and response plan.

### **Helping IDP children to feel like a child again during COVID-19**



*Daw Htang Byen during a psychosocial support session at an IDP camp in Northern Shan state, May 2020.*

*"It's my third time coming to this Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp. This is a 4-year-old Christian IDP camp. I first came here at the end of March, after the first confirmed case was announced. I like coming here because I get to meet children and they enjoy playing with me. Due to COVID-19, children in the camp cannot go out and play with friends like they used to. When I am there, I practice handwashing with them and do psychosocial support activities using a drawing book. I also distribute masks which our branch received from local donors. The adults in the IDP camp are mostly daily wage workers and nowadays they have no work. When I gave them masks, they were asking me if I could give them food or water instead."*

**Daw Htang Byen, Red Cross volunteer,  
Manton township, Northern Shan state**

# Africa

## Regional Update

### Operations Update

**140,491** total confirmed cases in Sub-Saharan Africa

**3,097** total confirmed deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa

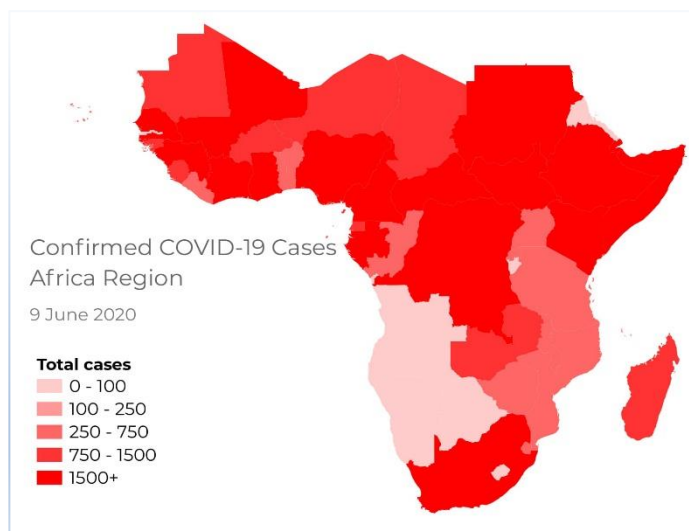
as reported by WHO, 09 June 2020

**Technical workshop:** Following the first and second funding rounds, the Africa COVID-19 team will host a workshop with various sectoral colleagues in the coming week to identify lessons learnt from this process and codify proposals for improvements to future rounds as well as our systems more broadly. The report will be shared with the IFRC structures and other Regions to complement similar initiatives taking place across the Federation.

**Movement Coordination:** The Regional Directors of IFRC and ICRC are engaged in weekly coordination calls. The

Regional Director and Head of CCSTs are conducting online meetings with National Societies' leaders in all six sub-regions to ensure coherence, relevance and coordination of COVID-19 response. Besides, partner NSs (British RC, Danish RC, Finish RC and Norwegian RC) present in Kenya are also invited to IFRC's regional COVID-19 response cell calls held every week. Similarly, IFRC's leadership in inter-agency coordination is evidenced through our ongoing co-leadership of RCCE technical working groups. Africa Disaster Management Advisory Group (ADMAG) members have regularly been kept informed about operational developments.

**External coordination:** IFRC continues to play an active role in external coordination. It is actively engaged with RCCE interagency technical working group meetings for East and Southern Africa as co-lead together with UNICEF. Also, IFRC is co-leading the community feedback sub-working group for West and Central Africa together with MSF. The Head of Health and Care Unit participated in WHO's partners' meeting held on 2 June. Similarly, Head of DCPRR represented IFRC to OCHA led Regional Humanitarian Partnership Team (RHPT) meeting held on 3 June. Key discussions were on COVID-19 response related thematic matters on Supply Chain & Markets, the role of cash, other underfunded



humanitarian response and duty of care.

### Health

The regional office was engaged in the following activities.

- Planning work to organise an online ToT on ECV/RCCE training package scheduled for the week of 2 to 5 June for health and CEA personnel in Africa. Twenty-eight (28) health and CEA personnel across the region have registered for the online ToT. The interactive zoom ToT will include participants drawn from IFRC, PNS and NS working in the region.

- Technical review of 30 NS funding proposals on the health and wash components for round 2 allocation under the Appeal.
- Participation the UN Technical meetings on lab, PoE and Surveillance and Africa level calls with WHO.
- Supported the CCSTs focal points in collating the reports requested.
- Updating the Global Weekly Operations Update- guidance on the narrative information prepared and shared with PMER.

### **Risk Communication and Community Engagement**

The CEA team continues to be engaged in discussions and activities to strengthen RCCE for COVID-19. Engagements undertaken in the last week are:

#### **Community feedback collection**

- 34 National Societies are systematically collecting and analyzing community feedback related to COVID-19. Communities' concerns, questions, suggestions and rumours are documented to inform social mobilization activities as well as operational decisions.
- Coaching on management, coding and analysis of community feedback data with CEA cluster colleagues, African National Societies, as well as the data management intern of the CP3 program, is ongoing. Support on the coding of community feedback data is now also provided by to volunteers of the remote support team of the Austrian Red Cross.
- The ninth feedback report ([ENG](#), [FR](#)) covering feedback collected by 12 African National Societies was published. Unfortunately mistrust is still the most common feedback we are hearing - mainly about the pandemic being used making money, for political purposes or is not real because there are no sick people in the media.
- The ninth #AskDrBen report ([ENG](#)) addressing the most common rumours and questions was published. The French version will from now on be published as 'Ask Dr Aissa', featuring Dr Aissa, the IFRC health coordinator for West and Central Africa ([FR](#)).
- A new #AskDrBen [video](#) has been posted on [@IFRCAfrica](#) answering the question about how COVID-19 spreads, as well as an #AskDr Aissa [video](#) addressing the rumour that COVID-19 is man-made and spread intentionally in Africa.

#### **Internal and inter-agency coordination**

- Internal and external coordination is ongoing, with regular calls with the Africa CEA team and the global CEA team. IFRC is also co-leading the RCCE interagency technical working group for East and Southern Africa with UNICEF, leading the sub-working group on community feedback for East and Southern Africa as well as co-leading the community feedback sub-working group for West and Central Africa together with MSF.
- The fourth round of inter-agency community feedback trends from partners in East and Southern Africa as well as the second round of trends shared by partners in West and Central Africa are being discussed and recommendations developed.
- The team is supporting the ICRC with the organization of the Africa Together virtual music concert, which will take place on 4 and 5 June 2020.

#### **Capacity enhancement**

- National Societies are continuously supported to enhance the capacity of their staff and volunteers in Risk communication and community engagement. There is regular contact and discussion between CEA focal points of the NS and those of the CCST or other CEA focal points supporting the NS to discuss challenges and provide guidance and support. So far 41 National Societies have conducted at least basic training for staff and volunteers on RCCE for COVID-19.
- This week, 28 IFRC, PNS and NS participants are taking part in the first ECV and RCCE online training of trainers' course. The training is conducted on the messaging platform zoom and has many interactive elements such as group work in separate chat rooms, online polls and the use of mentimeter<sup>1</sup>. Participants will then be able to roll out the combined training either face to face or online.

#### **Protection Gender and Inclusion**

The unit was engaged in the following activities.

- Meeting with Somali and DRC NS on SGBV prevention and response in COVID -19 response.

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<sup>1</sup> Mentimeter is an easy-to-use presentation software that allows you to interact with your audience using real-time voting

- Work plan and activities in place with support from the IFRC PGI team to ensure proper implementation of SGBV prevention and response.
- South Africa - UNDP, IFRC southern Africa and South Africa Red Cross Society have rolled out a survey to assess citizens experiences of and perceptions of social protection during the COVID-19 response. The process is led by UNDP and IFRC staff. Analysis from the survey will provide scenarios for use in national, post-crisis adjustment plans focusing on short, medium and long term.
- Cote d'Ivoire Red cross transcribed in braille the sensitization messages for COVID-19 to reach out to the blind. They are also in the process of translating all messages to sign language for ease of communication to persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities are no longer left behind in the COVID-19 response as they are now able to access information easily.

### National Society Development

The unit was engaged in the following activities.

- Worked closely with PRD Region and GVA in the global platform discussing the new digital fundraising solution and in strengthening Financial sustainability across the NS. Out of the six NS who had expressed interest, Kenya Red cross, Cote d'ivoire and Malawi have already participated in the feasibility study and responded to the questionnaire of the initiative with regards to enrolment process with the ongoing conversation on possible value add.
- PRD Region, GVA and NSD Region observed the need to engage the cluster Heads in the processes of the initiative with a follow-up webinar organized for NS in the coming week of 11 June with the following proposed agenda:
  - What the digital fundraising solution is
  - Short and longer-term plans for rollout of the platform
  - The process and steps taken so far, and the status
  - Any questions and next steps
- The third-party service provider and IFRC secretariat have finalized on due diligence and the MOU awaiting sign off.
- Participated in the NSD Regional monthly and weekly coordination meeting. Action plans coming out of the meetings were:
  - Clusters and sector units work towards enhancing information sharing and reporting
  - Resource and strengthen sector units, IM and Youth & volunteer
  - Develop standard guidelines checklist to guide NS in their COVID 19 response plans and beyond

### Communications






On Wednesday 20 May, the communications unit issued this press release: [East Africa: Red Cross raises the alarm over a "triple menace" of floods, COVID-19 and locusts.](#) The team also shared related audio-visual content via, IFRC's platform "Newsroom": [East Africa: Red Cross raises the alarm over a "triple menace" of floods, COVID- 19 and locusts.](#) The main goal was to position the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement as a key player in the response to an increasing number of overlapping crises in the region. **With over 500 media and social media mentions** by key global media outlets, the media engagement was very successful, resulting in one the highest levels of media coverage of IFRC's response to COVID-19, locusts, and flooding, since the beginning of the year, in Africa.

The media highlights from the Press release were as follows:

- At least **500 media and social media mentions** about our press release: [East Africa: Red Cross raises the alarm over a "triple menace" of floods, COVID-19 and locusts](#)
- Most media outlets used the term "**triple threat**" and "**triple menace**" in the titles of their stories.
- Most media articles directly quote our press release and Dr Simon Missiri
- The press release was picked up by the US news wire service [Associated Press](#) - (AP).
- The AP story was republished by several major outlets including the [Washington Post](#), [The New York Times](#), [CBC](#), [ABC](#)
- There was also coverage from key outlets such as [The Guardian](#), [BBC World Service](#) (14'45"), [China Daily](#), [Fox News](#), [Daily Mail](#), and [The Independent](#).

The specific activities conducted by NSs in the COVID-19 response is as listed below.

### Health:

-  17 Screening and contact tracing
-  15 Psychosocial Support
-  7 Clinical, paramedical, or homecare services
-  7 Emergency social services for quarantined individuals
-  7 Cash/livelihood support

## National Society Updates

### Angola Red Cross

The Angolan Red Cross has mobilized and trained 3,673 volunteers, with the participation of nurses and doctors from the Ministry of Health. Its focus has been on building a strong network of volunteers' by mapping the location of volunteers, creating groups of volunteers in communities and training of trainers to further train volunteers. Volunteers have been conducting various COVID-19 related activities in key public areas. The NS has reached 105,150 people through volunteer activities targeted at informal markets, supermarkets, taxi ranks, warehouses, ATMs and house to house visits. Additionally, they have reached 25,000,000 listeners and viewers through national radio programmes and national and public TV programmes related to COVID-19 in several languages. A total of 385 community engagement sessions were held in informal markets. A total of 1,180 people were reached in institutional and home quarantine at provincial level. A total of 448 calls were made under the Restoring Family Links program.

### Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross

Eswatini's first COVID-19 case was reported on 14 March 2020 after which the infection spread to all four regions of the country. Manzini is the worst hit, followed by the Hhohho, Lubombo and Shiselweni regions. By 21 May, 33 health workers were confirmed to have COVID-19. In response, the country established a National Disaster Task Force in which the BERCS is represented by its Secretary General. Each region has a multisectoral team responsible for the response to the epidemic. Weekly update meetings by all stakeholders are mandatory. Technical teams are also in place and the Ministry of Health is key lead. Fifty-four (54) National Society staff & 260 volunteers are being trained on COVID-19 Epidemic Control for Volunteers and RCCE activities. Both staff and volunteers will be involved in awareness campaigns, including house-to-house disseminating information, registering all households visited, demonstrating handwashing, and referring those showing flu-like symptoms to emergency teams. BERCS staff and volunteers have received face masks following the government announcement that all citizens must wear a face mask. In all the three BERCS-run clinics, health staff have been given Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). & COVID-19 screening equipment. RCCE messages aired on radio and TV during peak hours & before the morning & evening news. The NS will provide cash/livelihoods support to restore the income of vulnerable households affected by COVID-19.



### Botswana Red Cross Society

The society activated 4,272 volunteers for the response. A total of 541 volunteers across the country were trained on COVID-19 preparedness and the safe use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). To date, over 292 volunteers have been deployed to over 36 localities in Botswana. Response interventions have included assisting the government's relief food distribution process, risk communications and community engagement (RCCE), health promotion, enabling prevention protocols and infection control in rural areas. The society has also resumed other activities to run alongside COVID-19 response interventions, including its drought response and First Aid training services.

The NS is providing temporary shelter to assist decongest households. They have therefore issued a total of 42 family

tents and have decongested 56 families since the beginning of COVID-19 response. Two health facilities were also assisted with a tarpaulin shelter and family tent, both were used for temperature checks and registration of the public accessing the facility. In terms of Infection prevention and control (IPC) and WASH (community) 306 reusable face masks and 151 sanitisers were issued to staff, students, parents and guardians of the BRCS centres, Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre, Sefhare and Tshimologo Simulation Centres.

COVID-19 information dissemination and health promotion were conducted through the distribution of Information Education Communication (IEC) material to Botswana Bible Association in Gaborone, households, a school, kgotla (traditional meeting place) and a clinic in Tsetseng. Distributed materials estimated to reach over 1000 people. COVID-19 information was also disseminated to focus groups in vernacular to communities in Tsetseng. BRCS volunteers and staff also conducted handwashing demonstrations in the same area.

Risk Communication, Health and Hygiene Promotion interventions were done through 214 social distancing stickers placed at the Office of the President, Ministry of Health and Wellness offices, offices in Gaborone, the kgotla (traditional meeting place) and health facilities. Five volunteers in Kazungula were engaged to assist with temperature checks and registration of the public visiting at the District Commissioner's office and the clinic, a protocol introduced by the government to ensure traceability in the event that there are infections.



Infection Prevention Control and WASH (Community) were done in Tsetseng village where they were provided with two 10,000 litres water tanks to increase the number of existing tanks. These are envisaged to reduce congestion at water points. Over 500 people in the community stand to benefit from this intervention.

Livelihoods, cash support and Food aid was provided through P467,000.00 (Approximately CHF 37,650)<sup>2</sup> worth of food support to migrants. Thus far, 934 households have been reached across seven districts; Central, Kgatleng, Kgalagadi, Kweneng, North West, Ghanzi and Lobatse Town Council. Besides, 56 Students from BRCS centres, Tlamelong Rehabilitation and Tshimologong Simulation Centre, received vouchers for food and hygiene packages. In terms of the NS readiness, two NS staff attended Epidemic Control and RCCE Training of Trainers training between 2 and 5 June 2020.

### Cameroon Red Cross Society

The NS weekly conducted interactive radio shows through the topic "*tous contre le COVID-19*" in partnership with 4 radio stations. A total of 30 volunteers are involved in the radio programs, reaching out to more than 2 million people in the Douala and Yaounde cities. A total of 281 community feedbacks were collected through community mobilizers, radio shows social media, Whatsapp platforms and focus group discussions and was shared with IFRC in support to the production of IFRC regional community feedback report. These feedbacks were collected in Yaoundé and Douala. Seven Focus Group Discussions and 10 interviews targeting community leaders and community groups were conducted by 16 volunteers in Yaounde as means to deliver health education messages on COVID-19 to communities to encourage proper hygiene practices and inform on preventive measures against COVID-19. Seventy-three (73) people participated in these community discussions. Communities from 58 overcrowded and vulnerable neighbourhoods in Yaoundé are encouraged to adopt safe hygiene practices and distancing measures to prevent COVID-19. Twenty (20) volunteers who have been equipped with megaphones use motorbikes to encourage vulnerable communities in targeted areas of the Yaoundé city. A total of 18,550 people were reached with health education messages on COVID-19. New audio spots have been produced and translated into some local languages to address



<sup>2</sup><https://www1.oanda.com/currency/converter/>

stigma against people with the disease and their families, the spreading of rumours / false information through social networks, the rejection of health workers and the importance of observing restriction measures around COVID-19. Social media communication is conducted through Twitter, Facebook and volunteers/ staff Whatsapp platforms to provide correct and updated information on COVID-19 to targeted audiences and Red Cross staff and volunteers.

### Central African Republic Red Cross Society

Construction by the IFRC of three (3) isolation shelters at the Sino-Central African Friendship Hospital and the Bangui General Hospital to support services for the management of COVID-19 cases. A total of 1,000 additional alternative masks were manufactured for staff and volunteers. Awareness-raising activities were done in the neighbourhoods through mobile caravans and handwashing kits in nine Local Red cross Committees and resumption of activities in the 7th subdivision (suspended for security reasons on 2 May 2020). In total, 15 motorized caravans and 320 volunteers were mobilized, 47 handwashing kits, 21,000 litres of water, 60 megaphones used and 190,000 people were reached. Training sessions for 131 community leaders (93 men and 38 women) organized in the 10 local committees with the technical support of the French Red Cross and financial support from the Netherlands RC.



### The Comoros Red Crescent

The NS carried out production and distribution of 1,000 face masks through volunteers. Community sessions on the use of masks and chlorinated water in 29 communities were done where 15,195 people were reached. The NS also supported disinfection of public sites with the local authorities (more than 17,000 m<sup>2</sup>).

Training of 414 volunteers, community health workers of the Ministry of Health and members of the community management committees on the community monitoring. Donation to the Ministry of Health of PPE (chirurgical masks, body bags, gloves, head cover(charlotte), goggles, shoe cover, Gowns (Combi Poly pro-M), hydro-alcoholic solution, Sprayer, FFP2. In terms of RCCE a total of three TV broadcasts to promote preventive measures, epidemic symptoms, dead body management were done where 170,100 people were reached. Epidemic information was shared through the National Society Facebook page as well as the Ministry of Health Facebook page.



### Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Congo

A briefing on CEA for 250 volunteers was done in Kinshasa. A total of 120 volunteers conducted community discussions and household visits to raise awareness on COVID-19 and encourage safe hygiene and compliance to barrier measures. Almost 40,000 people were reached in Kananga with messages around COVID-19 to improve on their knowledge of the outbreak and encourage safe health behaviour. A total of 75 volunteers and care providers (60 volunteers and 15 care providers) from Kinshasa were trained in IPC by the French Red Cross. The same training was provided in Goma and Bukavu targeting community members and traditional healers.

### Gabonese Red Cross Society

The NS conducted door-to-door sensitization in Woleu-Ntem where a total of 2,517 people were reached disaggregated as 1,280 women and, 1,237 men. The NS also carried out sensitizations in public places in the Ogooué-Lolo where approximately 1500 people were reached with health education messages on COVID-19. Six volunteers received psychological support and a psychological evaluation was carried out on three staff members. The NS did a follow-up of contact cases where 30 cases were followed up, 120 follow-up calls of online contacts made. A team of five volunteers are involved in radio shows on basic knowledge on COVID-19 in partnership with "Radio Emergence". The NS is supporting a campaign launched by the local government to provide food assistance to vulnerable communities in the outskirts of Libreville. Vouchers and food kits are being distributed to targeted families.

### Lesotho Red Cross

LRCS currently support in disseminating of information on COVID-19 using various media platforms, public gathering (restricted) and distribution of IEC material. This includes advocating for social distancing in public areas such as markets, shopping complex, gatherings, etc., through the social distancing campaigns held by volunteers in 10 divisions. More

than 20 supermarkets are complying to social distancing and information disseminated on COVID-19 and hygiene promotion shared to 30,000 people. Prevention of COVID-19 is linked to good hygiene practices, thus LRCS initiatives also include community education on proper handwashing practices and construction of tippy-taps in public areas. To date, through LRCS volunteers support, 196 tippy taps have been constructed and information on proper handwashing shared to 30,000 people. With support from MoH LRCS participates in contact tracing and COVID-19 screening in hot spots (borders/point of entry). To address the food insecurity because of COVID-19, LRCS has established a feeding programme (soup kitchen) to support vulnerable homeless people living in various places within the country. To date, LRCS has provided meals to 100 homeless people, this includes children and adults.

### Malagasy Red Cross Society

The NS deployed mobile clinics composed of 2 tents, 15 foldable beds, 1 ambulance, 2,000 FFP3 masks, 480 blouses, 100 and 500ml hydroalcoholic to support the Ministry of Health activities in the new epicentre region of Atsinanana. The NS also Installed 314 handwashing points in 9 districts of Antananarivo and Antalaha, particularly at markets and schools. Disinfection activities were done to 11 high risky sites of Antalaha such as churches, boats, and administrative offices. A training of trainers for 161 volunteers on COVID-19 and PSS was done. Donation of medicines and other materials to three hospitals was also done and handover of 5,000 masks to Hospitals and 4,000 to the Ministry of Health. In terms of RCCE activities, a total of 185 volunteers supported on community sensitization reaching 83,557 people through home visits, focus group discussions, mass sensitization, leaflets, posters, audio spot broadcasting, banners, and video. Community sensitization was also done through social media messages like **#stayathome**. The NS Facebook page is <http://facebook.com/croixrougemalagasy/>. Cash transfers were done to 1,148 families. The Malagasy RC hotline number (034 30 811 12) was established and communicated to the community to request information about COVID-19.



*Sensitization on the use of mask by Malagasy RC: Photo MRCS, May 2020*

### Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS)

As an auxiliary to the government, the MRCS developed a complementary COVID-19 response plan, with the overall objective of strengthening the National Society's preparedness and response as well as supporting the Ministry of Health in preventing further spread of the disease. It aims to contribute to control mechanisms by specifically focusing on risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities. Activities have a nationwide focus, but with specific emphasis on affected areas to limit further spreading. A total of 261 MRCS Staff, 950 Volunteers, 322 stakeholders were oriented on COVID-19 and in turn, reached 319,941 people in 58,171 households with COVID-19 prevention messages. The NS also provided prisons with soaps for 4,000 inmates, those coming through police custody and those on remand. A total of 164 calls and 101 Wi-Fi connections made under the Restoring Family Links programme. The NS reached over 41,310 people in 82 crowded places (markets, malls, banks, roadblocks & mobile markets). Audio vans have also been used, while big-screen cinemas targeted roadside open markets. Finally, 3,705 people were reached with PGI (protection, gender & inclusion) messages during sensitization meetings, handwashing campaigns and door to door activities. Shortfalls in funding have resulted in 10 out of 29 districts missing out on COVID-19 activities.

### Mauritius Red Cross Society

The NS provided psychological support to the population from affected areas through 40 volunteers, 10 staff, 15 doctors and psychologists. Two ambulances were offered for services for reference to the health centres or hospitals. The NS supported in administering medical services to elderly people and facilitating access to medicines for people who cannot join the medical centre. Sensitizations were carried out via the NS Facebook page <http://facebook.com/croixrougedemaurence/>, banners fixed at the main supermarkets in the capital and on many billboards across the country to respect health guidelines.



### Mozambique Red Cross Society

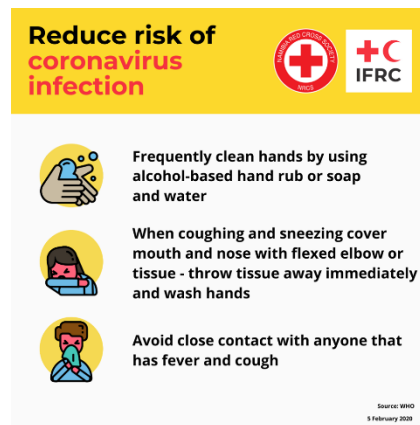
The NS has trained 1,400 volunteers and community members who actively play a crucial role in disseminating information on COVID-19 prevention and control measures in the country's most remote communities. In close partnership with the Ministry of Health and other partners, the NS has been intensifying its advocacy work in promoting health and hygiene in public spaces, systematically collecting rumours to produce its national report of community feedbacks and training public agents to respond to psychological first aid and SGBV in the context of COVID-19. The NS

has supported in creating 4,479 handwashing points across the country. They have also distributed protective materials for workers (gloves, masks, gel/alcohol) and essential items (kitchen sets, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene materials etc) to over 1,600 families (8,000 individuals) forced to flee armed violence in Cabo Delgado. They have published 11,000 folding IEC leaflets and 10,000 IEC leaflets. Personal hygiene kits have been distributed to 23 Cabo Delgado provincial prisons reaching 2,062 detainees. They have also conducted 842 psycho-social sessions across the country. The NS has rehabilitated and constructed two COVID-19 treatment centres (wards & sanitation facilities) for 200 patients and donated beds, hygiene & cleaning items for the centres.

### Namibia Red Cross Society

Currently, the activities being carried out in the regions include public awareness-raising, hygiene promotion, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), media relations, provision of food baskets to vulnerable people and the distribution of IEC materials in strategic areas. The identified areas targeted with risk communication include informal settlements (door to door), markets and border posts. Schools, churches, terminals and taxi ranks are still closed so are not yet targeted. The NS has trained, activated and deployed 220 Community base Volunteers in 10 out of a total of 14 Regions to carry out the COVID-19 response activities.

Furthermore, as the impact of COVID-19 is being felt on the economic level due to the loss of employment, more and more families are having less and less to eat. Especially vulnerable families are at the receiving end; therefore, the NS has included an element of livelihood support to these households. The NS aims to support 500 households with food baskets for five months as part of its response to the pandemic. Finally, the response plan also aims to keep staff, volunteers and interns safe. The NS has 210 volunteers trained with the help of Namibia's Ministry of Health. 100 volunteers deployed to Khomas region, as the epicentre and the rest in 9 out of the 14 regions. Volunteers provided health education in communities, with a focus on WASH (constructing tippy-taps, demonstrating handwashing). Volunteers assisted officials with collecting information on those entering Namibia.



### Seychelles Red Cross Society

A total of 500 "Kits for Kids", composed of hygienic items such as soaps, hand sanitizers, wipes, tissues were provided to representatives of foster homes and children benefitting from the Dedicated Fund and further packs were given out at a village. The beneficiary kids are the scholars from the vulnerable households and most affected by the crisis. This initiative is part of the National Society's efforts at preventing the spread of COVID-19, and according to the theme chosen this year (*I give with joy, and joy is my reward*) calling on each one to extend a helping hand to the needy. A one-day Psychological First Aid Training for school counsellors, senior staff from the Ministry of Education at the School of Institute & Teacher Education was conducted. Ten volunteers are still active at the National Red Cross headquarters helping the Electoral Commission regarding the business continuity plan and are part of the emergency response committee at the Ministry of Health. The report on health screening in schools and evaluation/assessment on the services it is delivering, safety & hygiene levels at schools and preparation is being finalized.



The SG of Seychelles RC communicating about COVID-19 in the Newsletter, Photo: RCSS, May 2020

### South African Red Cross Society

In support of the government efforts to stop the spread of the virus, SARCS is running various activities across the country, including public awareness-raising, hygiene promotion, risk communication for behaviour change, media relations, screening and contact tracing, provision of meals to vulnerable groups and distribution of IEC materials at strategic places, including schools, taxi ranks, bus terminals, churches, malls and informal settlements. SARCS has also added clinics, temporary shelters for the homeless and social grants pay points to the list since lockdown.

The National Society is still on the ground in all nine provinces ensuring that the efforts of curbing the spread of the virus are being done. The volunteers now have intensified their efforts in public education, by distributing key messages that are being translated into local languages. The messages are on preventative measures and hygiene promotions. This is done by distributing posters and pamphlets at hotspots areas such as taxi ranks, malls, streets, informal settlements, bus terminals, clinics and government premises. The volunteers are also working on risk communication and community engagement where misinformation, rumours and myths are being tackled by providing the right information. The inclusion of vulnerable groups such as people living with disabilities is being catered for so that they are not left out in these discussions. The IFRC supported SARCS with 3,380 myth-buster stickers for promoting social distancing and they were placed at malls across nine provinces, and 500 posters placed at strategic areas such as malls, clinics and 27 shelters for the homeless. The national society has developed and distributed 212,383 flyers and 1533 posters with key messages about COVID-19. Up to date, about 562,432 people have been reached so far with key messages developed to curb the spread of the virus emphasizing on hygiene promotions at household level, social distancing, and precautionary measures and tracking of myths, misinformation about the virus and rumours.

The National Society visibility has improved over the past months due to the media relations, coverage and good working relationships. Both print and electronic media house have been covering the work of volunteers in all Provinces through radio interviews, articles, press statements and TV coverage. About 46 million viewers and listeners have been reached with key messages on COVID-19 preventative measures, signs and symptoms.

With the increase of cases across the country, the National Society now upscale its efforts in supporting the Department of Health (DOH) on contact Tracing screening and testing. The Contact tracing, door-door screening and testing will be expanded in all provinces looking at the increase of the cases. More volunteers will be trained through the support of DOH. So far, seven provinces are doing contact tracing, screening and testing and they have reached about 456, 082 people on screening, 29,976 people on contact tracing and 5,056 people with testing.

The NS is also supporting the DOH at the call centres in the three provinces Free State (15 volunteers), Western Cape (6 volunteers), and Gauteng province (2 volunteers). The roles and responsibilities of volunteers are,

- Data capturing
- Online screening
- Referrals (Those screened) and
- Food parcels.

With the lockdown being moved to level 3, the National Society continues to provide hot meals in all 9 provinces. Currently, the National Society is conducting an assessment to find out if people are still affected and if there is still a need to support communities with Hot meals. Some provinces have indicated that from their findings there is still a need to support as the lockdown has affected the livelihoods of communities and some people have lost their jobs. The volunteers have reached 266,764 people with hot meals and the target groups are homeless, orphans and vulnerable children, disabled and elderly and the migrants.

SARCS is continuing to support communities with food parcels in all 9 Provinces, targeting communities at informal settlements who were severely affected by the lockdown. Currently, those who were doing informal jobs or working in the informal sectors have been seriously affected by the lockdown. The National Society distributed 16,266 food parcels.

With the promotion of hygiene at household level, SARCS has distributed 1,747 hygiene packs, 133 buckets and 614 soaps to identified vulnerable people. SARCS has responded to winter conditions and volunteers have distributed 3,708 blankets and 88 mattresses to vulnerable people in shelters.

The National Society has engaged 2,150 volunteers across all 9 provinces. As numbers of cases are increasing and the needs are evolving, more volunteers will be mobilized to be able to reach more vulnerable communities.

SARCS volunteers and staff are provided with PSS from appointed PSS experts. This is done to support volunteers who are overwhelmed and distressed due to the environment they are operating in.

## **Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS)**

To align with the Ministry of Health's (MoH) response plan, the National Society has been part of the coordination meetings organised by the MoH and Disaster Mitigation and Management Unit (DMMU). Initially, the response concentrated on awareness-raising activities and community engagement around the country with most activities centred on Lusaka and the Copperbelt provinces, the epicentres of the pandemic. The pandemic has now spread to three other provinces - Central, North-Western and Muchinga provinces. ZRCS is, therefore, scaling up response efforts to cover 18 districts from the initial 13 priority ones as well as beefing up staff numbers to support this increase. Twenty-six (26) volunteers in 13 priority districts have been trained as Trainers of Trainers on COVID-19 and community mobilization. Currently, there is an ongoing behaviour change message dissemination on COVID-19 in 13 priority districts. Messages are shared through mobile public address systems (safe community mobilisation) in collaboration with MoH and the Zambia News and Information Services. The NS supports the MoH in targeted quarantine centres with handwashing stations, soaps and hand sanitizers. Talks are ongoing to support MoH in contact tracing, surveillance & screening. Information was also disseminated using the Public Address System to 2,536,374 people in outlying districts and 1,662,705 people in the capital Lusaka. Finally, the NS made 551 calls and 203 Wi-Fi connections under the Restoring Family Links program. To cater to the hearing impaired, ZRCS has developed Information Education and Communication material in sign language in keeping with the Red Cross principle of inclusion.



### Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

The continued ban on the informal sector has increased the vulnerability of the majority who rely on this sector, 60% of whom are women. Lack of adequate social protection programmes to cushion the vulnerable in urban centres remains a concern. In rural areas programmes have continued providing food assistance to the food insecure.

Demand for risks communication remains very high as safe practices remain very low in both rural and urban populations.

People continue to queue for scarce basic commodities such as mealie-meal, sugar and fuel, sometimes disregarding social distancing. The NS has trained 400 RCCE focal points and 600 staff and volunteers on RCCE. Food has been provided to 231,646 people in 8 districts. They have also broadcasted 35 sessions of radio jingles produced by the celebrated musician and ZRCS humanitarian ambassador. They have supported in screening 2,000 people at ZRCS clinic, all ZRCS offices and food security operations. Finally, they have distributed 4 tents to 3 isolation centres.

# The Americas

## Regional Update

### Americas figures

**3,415,174** total confirmed cases

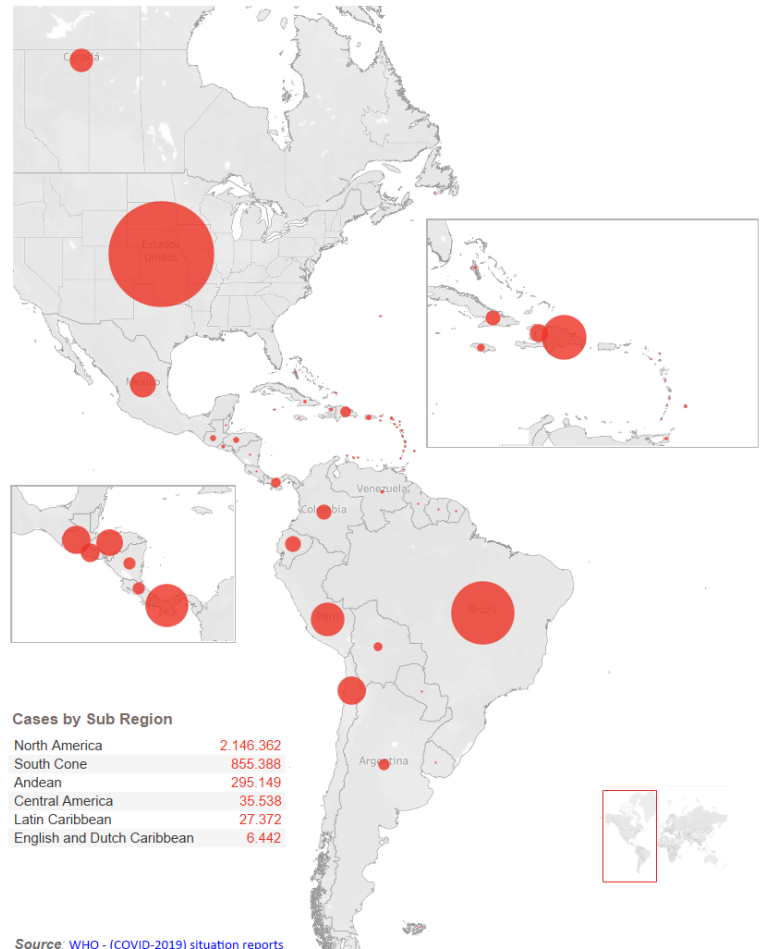
**185,863** total confirmed deaths

as reported by [WHO as at 2 pm Panama time, 10 June 2020](#)

The Americas continues to be the first region with the highest number of confirmed cases in 35 countries and 19 overseas territories and with the highest number of deaths in the world so far. The United States and Brazil are hot spots for confirmed COVID-19 cases and contributing to 78% of the regional cases.

The Latin American epicentre is in Brazil, which has surpassed 23,000 deaths and is approaching 400,000 cases. In Mexico, the number of confirmed cases has risen to 36,327 and the number of deaths to 3,573. Some countries in the region have started with progressive processes of liberalization of some measures.

### +CIFRC COVID-19: Confirmed cases in Americas Region Data as of 09-June-2020



Source: [WHO - \(COVID-2019\) situation reports](#)

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. Produced by IM Americas

## National Society Updates

### North America

**American Red Cross (AmCross)** **New!** American Red Cross COVID-19 missions focus on supporting community efforts to help those impacted from coast to coast. In addition to various support missions that are unique from state to state, and over 70 feeding missions across the United States, a Virtual Family Assistance Center has been made available to assist anyone who has lost a loved one.

**New!** Since February, when the coronavirus outbreak escalated in the United States, Red Cross workers have helped more than 53,000 people recover from more than 13,000 home fires nationwide. As AmCross adapted its physical response due to COVID-19, it has provided hotel accommodations rather than opening emergency shelters. Since April 16, Amcross provided more than 29,000 overnight stays in emergency hotel lodging, rather than opening traditional shelters for tornadoes, large home fires affecting multiple families and other crises.

**New!** The NS is also working with public health officials on its COVID-19 plans to respond as needed to the ongoing threat of spring flooding, severe storms, wildfires, and the above-normal hurricane season forecast for this year.

**New!** To help ensure vulnerable people do not go hungry during this public health crisis, the Red Cross is working with local community partners to support feeding efforts where there are government-ordered quarantines or mandatory stay at home orders.

**New!** AmCross volunteers are making face coverings for veteran and military hospitals across the world.

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**New!** The NS is working closely with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and blood industry partners to collect and distribute convalescent plasma. People who have fully recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that can attack the virus. This convalescent plasma is being evaluated as a treatment for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those judged by a healthcare provider to be at high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening disease.

**New!** Essential First Aid and CPR courses are being held, where permitted, with social distancing approaches and follow public health guidance.

AmCross continues with:

- Setting up a health screening process for everyone coming into shelter - Creating an isolation care area.
- Providing masks, tissues, and plastic bags throughout shelters.
- Following social distancing practices, as much as possible, by staggering mealtimes and adding extra spacing between cots, chairs, tables, etc.
- Providing additional handwashing stations, in addition to normal restroom facilities.
- Increasing wellness checks to identify potential illness, including self-monitoring and checking temperatures of both shelter residents and staff.
- Enhancing both cleaning and disinfecting practices throughout the shelter. We are working closely with public health officials to ensure the safety of local communities and our workforce, while still providing the help and hope they need should disaster strike.

The American Red Cross has also helped evacuated citizens that were placed in quarantine after returning to the United States. AmCross teams provided relief items such as blankets, comfort kits, and children's toys to partners managing quarantine facilities.

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**Canadian Red Cross (CRC)**

**New! Support to Quarantined Travelers:** CRC is providing care and comfort services at designated sites to travelers who, upon arrival, declare sign/symptoms of COVID-19 and are not within a 12-hour drive from their home location OR do not have the means to transport themselves via private transportation to their final destination. Travelers will remain 'quarantined' in hotels until their isolation period is completed. CRC is also providing virtual relief support to asymptomatic returning Canadians who cannot complete the self-isolation period in their home. This support will be provided virtually utilizing local Personal Disaster Assistance (PDA) teams within each province.

**New! Support to Isolated Individuals & Families:** CRC has provided immediate relief services including information, referral, support to Safety & Well-Being, financial assistance by utilizing our registration systems, call center capacity, volunteers, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support specialized teams. CRC is also enabling municipalities and communities to support those in isolation through the provision of emergency response stock, including cots, blankets, and personal items.

**New! Support to Indigenous Populations:** CRC is working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities to strengthen their health preparedness and response capacity. This includes securing and shipping food, personal items, medical supplies, and the provision of emergency response stock, including cots and blankets. CRC is also supporting Indigenous communities by activating an Indigenous Help Desk aimed at providing information and referrals on Planning & Preparedness for Health Emergencies, Health Guidance Information including Infection Prevention & Control, as well as guidance on Community Wellness and Protection.

**New! Support to Seniors:** CRC actively supports thousands of Canadians across the country by connecting vulnerable individuals and older adults to a wide range of community support services. These services provide needed resources and daily supports to older adults, vulnerable people, and their caregivers. Services include meal delivery, wellness checks, emergency care connection, and friendly calls.

**New! Health Emergency Response Unit (ERU):** The Emergency Health Unit (ERU) is a field hospital that has 24/7 year-round deployment capability. It is a standardized modular package of trained personnel and equipment deployed to emergencies on short notice. It provides an essential, primary, and standardized service platform, entirely self-sufficient, which can be deployed for up to four months. The ERU offers pre-trained groups of technical specialists, standardized pre-packed equipment. CRC is providing components of their emergency hospital and assisting in the set-up of augmented health infrastructure and testing stations in different locations in the country.

**New! Support to Long Term Care Facilities:** CRC is responding to the growing gap in the collective ability to respond to the needs of seniors and vulnerable individuals in residential & long-term care homes. Services include recruitment and training of new staff, equipment loan, as well as providing teams of experts to assist those facilities in containing the spread of COVID-19 through a series of concrete actions including a site assessment, site-specific recommendations to layout and protocols, coaching, and monitoring.

**New! Epidemic Prevention & Control:** CRC is stepping up its support to vulnerable populations as an auxiliary to public authorities. As part of this effort and following an analysis of the most critical gaps, the CRC has offered to assist long-term care homes through several services including recruitment and training of new staff as well as providing teams of experts to assist those facilities in containing the spread of COVID-19 through a series of concrete actions including a site assessment, site-specific recommendations to layout and protocols, coaching and monitoring.

**New! Support to Community Partners:** CRC provides support to community partners through several avenues including; administration of grants, training on prevention of disease transmission and use of personal protective equipment as well as courses in psychological first aid.

**New! Psychosocial Support/Safety & Well-Being:** Psychosocial Support addresses the psychosocial needs of those affected and contributes to individual and community capacity and resiliency in the areas of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Safety and Wellbeing (SWB) aims to support those directly and indirectly affected by COVID-19 through enhancing resilience and coping, decreasing isolation, by providing connections and referrals, and direct emotional/psychosocial support, including considerations for gender, diversity and inclusion.

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**New! International Support:** Support is provided worldwide in bilateral projects to address preparedness and response to COVID-19. So far, it is participating in COVID-19 efforts in 17 countries. Discussions are underway with donors to allocate funds from preparedness and migration interventions to support National Societies' actions proposed in their contingency plans. In response to IFRC rapid response alerts, the CRC is supporting the deployment of Canadian rapid response staff to Africa, the Middle East, and North Africa and the Americas region.

**Mexican Red Cross (MRC)** The National Society has set up a Clinical Assessment Center (triage) to support suspected coronavirus patients and refer them to health hospitals for specialized care. MRC has equipped 98 ambulances with bio-contingency capsules to attend to suspected or severe cases and follow a protocol when it is detected symptoms of COVID-2019. MRC has installed 20 orientation modules to take the temperature of people with infrared thermometers, explain hygiene measures, and provide information on COVID-19 at metro stops and main squares in the country's capital. MRC continues to conduct awareness campaigns in schools about prevention measures with hygiene promotion and sharing awareness material through social media. MRC continues to strengthen protection measures for doctors, nurses, and emergency medical technicians in the institution. MRCS permanently participates in the State's Health Committee.

## Central America

IFRC in close communication and coordination with Central America National Societies has mobilized exiting funds to respond to the emergency. Discussions with donors continues to allocate funds from preparedness and migration intervention to support National Societies on the action proposed under their contingency plans.

Under the leadership of the Central American Cluster and in cooperation with CEPREDENAC, two educational sessions on COVID-19 have been developed for humanitarian organizations, National Red Cross Societies, and Civil Protection Systems, with more than 500 people reached. Also, in coordination with CEPREDENAC, an online resource box was developed so that the region's civil protection systems can access information on COVID-19. This is hosted on the Reference Centre's website and is organized by thematic areas, e.g. PPD, PGI, APS, Migration.

Within the framework of the regional DIPECHO programme for Central America (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua), technical assistance continues to be provided remotely to the NS. As of today, Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) action plans are adapted to COVID 19's operations and are part of the recovery process, including the National Societies' business continuity plans.

All the National Societies in Central America have completed their response plans. The proposed actions focus on the following programmatic areas:

- Information: all activities related to information sharing (symptoms, differences with flu and other similar diseases, among others).
- Response: active participation in the respective national plans for this crisis, prehospital services, psychosocial services, and support to shelter (quarantine and others), support to local authorities with competencies for the response.
- Staff and volunteer management: self-protective measures, internal arrangements for National Societies services, procurement of PPE and first response equipment.
- Communication: internal and external communication with a strong component of operational communication and socialization of the key messages in the mass media.

**Costa Rica Red Cross (CRR)** **New!** CRC continues to disseminate messages to the population through loudspeakers as well as distribution of 1,530 daily newspapers and cleaning kits in coordination with the CNE. There were 65 talks for CRC staff, 1 community talk (Guanacaste) and 71 sessions of psychosocial care for staff in the form of telecare.

**New!** CRC carried out two procedures on the use of personal protection equipment. In addition, verifications of the correct use of this equipment and the handling of bio-hazardous waste, disinfection of units and cleaning of the Auxiliary Committees were carried out.

**New!** The promotion of mental health due to social isolation continues via webinars and disciplinary proceedings were initiated for personnel who fail to comply with preventive measures for the transmission of infectious diseases. In El Limón, CRC collaborated with the transfer of medical personnel from the Guápiles Hospital to their respective homes.

**New!** As part of PGI's actions, basic LESCO (Costa Rican Sign Language) workshops were held in Puntarenas for the staff of different sections and programs. In Guanacaste, a talk on Homophobia and Transphobia was held and information on this subject was disseminated on social networks.

**New!** A WASH evaluation sheet for the CATEMs has been made and shared with the migration desk, the database of WASH staff available at the National Society is being updated and will be shared with the CORs as appropriate.

**New!** Under the Red Cross - Costa Rican Tourism Institute agreement on the actions of the Lifeguards: In this operational period, an accumulated 9,898 hours of work were achieved in support of the actions of prevention of the pandemic and water rescue, where 138 precautions were taken for bathers during the opening of beaches (recommendations on currents and other dangers) and 3 water rescues were carried out. The measures that enable the beaches to be used from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. have been maintained, so the lifeguards have adapted their working hours to cover this period of beach use. This week the surveillance posts in the Central Pacific are closed: Caldera and Puntarenas, so the lifeguard service will continue in 4 beaches in the North and South Pacific: Ballena, Tamarindo, Manuel Antonio and Ventanas and 2 beaches in the Caribbean: Cocles and Manzanillo.

**New!** In the Limón region, coordination has been taken with officials from MINSa and other response institutions for the arrival of a cruise ship with 17 returnees on June 1, 2020, at the Muelle Hernán Garrón, JAPDEVA. At the Peñas Blancas border post (La Cruz,

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Guanacaste). CRC provided services to take vital signs and to do epidemiological screenings and Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to the Central American transporters who were waiting in Costa Rican territory, with the participation of personnel from 10 committees and Regional Board 5, providing care to 821 people. Signs were taken at the Tablillas post (Los Chiles, Alajuela) and, also, with the collaboration of the Los Chiles WEC and people from the community, a lunch was organized for 29 transporters, in compliance with all safety measures including people trained in food handling. The RFL service is maintained by the National Directorate of Doctrine, Principles, and Values, in coordination with the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Panama and Mexico. Border closures are maintained until June 30, 2020.

**New!** This week 11,052 humanitarian aid packages (food and cleaning kits) from the National Production Council (CNP) were transferred by CRC to various CNE facilities and to the municipalities of Turrialba, Oreamuno and Paraiso de Cartago, with a total mass of 86,250 kilograms.

As of June 1, a total of 6,762 incidents related to COVID-19 have been addressed by the CRC by telephone. 890 people have been transferred to medical centres that meet the parameters agreed by the Ministry of Health and the SN.

In the migration sector, 118 persons are currently being treated in CATEM Norte and 167 in CATEM Sur (91 minors and 194 adults). Nine RFL cases have been attended to and seven of them have been resolved. The service for restoring contact between family members provided by the National Directorate of Doctrine, Principles and Values is still active, in coordination with the ICRC offices in Panama and Mexico.

Awareness campaigns aimed at the population continue to be conducted through loudspeakers and CRCR staff with talks, using the Microsoft Teams platform. In addition, volunteers and staff who have been in contact with suspected and confirmed COVID-19 patients continue to be monitored to determine whether they are developing symptoms.

CRC continues to participate daily in the virtual meetings of the EOC National, Regional and Municipal Committees. The National Directorate of Doctrine and the ICRC have coordinated resources for the procurement of personal hygiene and general cleaning items for migrants in the temporary migrant holding centres.

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**Guatemalan Red Cross (GRC)** **New!** GRC continues to develop its action plan for dealing with this pandemic, implementing actions in pre-hospital care, health, water and sanitation, livelihoods, communication with the population, and prevention of gender-based violence. GRC has transferred 283 people, 18 tents have been set up, and a total of 1,716 hygiene kits have been delivered. 606 volunteers have been trained, 1,311 migrants have received information, 885 units of blood have been collected, and 242 communication materials have been produced. A total of 149 health personnel has been trained from 10 beneficiary assistance centres. All these actions were carried out in close coordination with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance.

CRG volunteers are distributing hand disinfectant (alcohol gel) in coordination with the Municipal Coordination for Risk Reduction (COMRED) and providing humanitarian information on the containment measures promoted by the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance. Also, explaining the correct washing of hands, the ways to cough to avoid contagion, and the correct application of the antibacterial gel.

The CRG continues to analyze and follow up on information related to trends and forecasts for the rainy and hurricane season in the country, with national and regional authorities on the subject.

CRG developed a coloring book for children from 4 to 9 years old, Dr. Perla and Dr. Albert, on how to beat COVID-19. This material aims to provide recommendations for children to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19 and ways to prevent it.

It has provided humanitarian assistance to returnees by land, providing clean water, hygiene kits, snacks, antibacterial gel and guidance on COVID-19. Psychosocial support has been provided to the CRG team that attends to returnees during the emergency. The SN has held sessions to update cleaning and disinfection procedures with first responders (change validation practices) and with volunteers to update infection control and prevention procedures (at HQ).

CRG, as part of local capacity building, promotes basic online training on disaster preparedness and has printed materials on VOC information and prevention-19.

CRG participates in coordination meetings through the Emergency Operations Centres for actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, under the responsibility of local authorities. CRGGRC continues to participate in the health, water, sanitation, and nutrition thematic groups in Guatemala.

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**Honduran Red Cross (HRC)** **New!** The HRC network of Councils at the national level works together with the Municipal Emergency Committees to support people with food and supplies for basic needs. The Cash working group has provided technical support to humanitarian delivery actions by this means. The census of families in the department of El Paraíso has been validated to start the process of purchasing food kits.

**New!** HRC has provided psychological and medical monitoring of staff in the four regions, with the COVID-19 case management protocol and monitoring of the solidarity fund for COVID-19 cases for personnel. Five new and 12 follow-up mental health services have been provided to HRC staff and volunteers. Nine self-care days were held for staff and volunteers and virtual sessions were held through social networks for advice on PHC and self-care issues.

**New!** In Tegucigalpa, the biosecurity plan is being implemented in the facilities of the HRC National Council, where the protocols for personal and institutional biosecurity for the COVID-19 virus are being applied. Two technical meetings were held with the directors of the Integrated Health Centers (CIS) and representatives of NGOs (Asociación Compartir and GOAL) in the Villanueva and Los Pinos neighborhoods to learn about the needs and challenges they face due to the health crisis caused by COVID-19 at the community level. A virtual self-care day was held with emphasis on stigma and discrimination aimed at CIS staff in the Central District. The psychological clinic for victims of violence has provided four new mental health services and 11 follow-up services. In Choluteca, three CIS (Las Acacias, La Providencia, and Las Colinas) have been supported in mobilizing medicines, vaccines, and publicity material for the implementation of the vaccination day.

**New!** In the water, sanitation and hygiene sector, five home fogging campaigns have been coordinated with the Health Region and the Municipality of Choluteca to support preventive actions against dengue, benefiting 668 families and an approximate population of 6,549 people (San Francisco, El Palomar, Brisas del Sur, Santa Rosa de Sampire and Residencial Santa Rosa communities). Two BTI application campaigns were carried out to control dengue infestation rates, 350 home visits were made and key self-care messages were promoted, with emphasis on the prevention of COVID19 and dengue, two educational centres were fumigated,

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benefiting 1,239 people in the Santa Rosa de Sampile and Brisas del Sur neighborhoods. Also, in coordination with SESAL and the HRC council in Choluteca, fumigation sessions and elimination of mosquitos breeding sites were carried out.

Following the agreement signed by the HRC with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Permanent Commission on Contingencies (COPECO), 400 more families from the municipality of Alauca have been added, reaching 2,811 families with food rations.

The Choluteca council, in coordination with CODEM, continues the process of pre-selection and filtering of 456 families from five neighborhoods in the area of influence of the PAO South Project, with the aim of providing humanitarian aid under the food ration modality through coupons, with which they will be able to select a list of 30 basic need products in a supermarket in the city of Choluteca. In Tegucigalpa CRH is doing advocacy for humanitarian assistance management with other civil society organizations at the local level to support 225 families in the Community of Los Pinos. And has conducted a census to identify the population with disabilities in the Community of Los Pinos.

CRH has initiated socioeconomic studies at the national level to support CRH personnel affected by COVID-19, medical follow-up is also being carried out for the prevention of cases at the institutional level, and psychosocial accompaniment continues to be provided to persons affected by grief in the context of COVID-19. CRH is implementing the Plan to Strengthen Biosafety Measures for Pre-Hospital Emergency Personnel in 8 municipalities in Region 3, and a video tutorial has been prepared to teach the use of Personal Protection Equipment in the Pre-Hospital Service.

CRH in Tegucigalpa continues to disseminate self-care messages and develop self-care days focused on the reduction of stigma and discrimination aimed at providers in 2 integral health centres in the Central District. And with ICRC support, 205 gallons of chlorine were donated.

Virtual sessions have been developed through CRH social networks (Facebook) of CRH for advice on issues of PHC and Self-care with the general public, some topics developed: How to handle grief by COVID-19, Mental Health in times of COVID-19 with older adults, among others.

The CRH National WASH Intervention Team socialized the biosecurity study with the Directorates, Managements and technical departments to the personnel working in the National Council, to maintain the minimum standards in the zones or areas of work within the institution and thus prevent the spread of COVID-19

Follow-up and monitoring of families affected by the rains in Colonia Altos de Los Pinos through the Local Emergency Committee in coordination with CODEM of the Central District. In coordination with CODEM, CODEL and Youth Networks, a ditch cleaning campaign was developed to improve water evacuation in 4 neighborhoods. A total of 60 people from the community participated. Weeds were cut in ravines and on vacant lots in 4 neighborhoods in influence of the PAO Sur Project. And the Mayor's Office of Choluteca was supported, in coordination with SESAL, in the fumigation of two municipal markets in the city. Providing equipment used to develop this activity.

CRH has provided RFL support to 573 Honduran migrants returned by air in the Temporary Isolation Centers for Migrants and RFL support was provided to 5 migrants returned by land and 23 migrants with humanitarian aid, providing them with: Food, Health Assistance, Disinfection, Hygiene Kit and Delivery of masks, and was accompanied by protection assistants.

Two virtual days were held, one for the virtual induction in RFL of two volunteers at CAMI Toncontí and another for the socialization of the need's assessment questionnaire in Isolation Centers with 4 volunteers referring to RFL.

CRH prepared the COVID-19 prevention guide in administrative areas of CRH headquarters, and is in the process of preparing a training package for National Intervention Teams in epidemic control in the context of COVID-19

In addition, support has been provided to the Honduran Ministry of Health (SESAL) in the transfer of medicines and vaccines to various comprehensive care centers, and epidemiological channels have been donated for monitoring COVID-19 and Arbovirosis cases and PPE for health providers for the San Pedro Sur comprehensive health center. The Choluteca council donated PPE, information registration material to the Las Acacias Comprehensive Health Center.

CRH is one of the institutions implementing the WASH Response Plan to provide safe water to families affected by COVID-19 nationwide. CRH is carrying out hygiene promotion and adequate use of biosecurity equipment with health personnel through the use of digital tools.

Among one of the DRM actions in the COVID-19 context, CRH has elaborated 9 departmental and municipal maps using a geographic information system, an action coordinated with COPECO department of Valle.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene support is planned for the Temporary Isolation Centers (CAT), which will be gradually installed throughout the country.

Awareness sessions on basic knowledge and measures to avoid the dissemination of COVID-19 have been held for volunteers and HRC staff in 48 councils, and virtual seminars on COVID-19 guidelines have been held for health personnel, in which 103 people have already been trained at the national level. In addition, a training programme on epidemic control in the context of COVID-19 is being developed for national intervention teams.

CRH has established biosecurity measures for the prevention of COVID-19 in offices and headquarters and is monitoring compliance. It has also established procedures for the protection, prevention and care of patients with COVID-19 at home.

Guidelines have been developed (and are being revised) for access to the emergency fund for volunteers and staff infected with COVID-19. Coordination and negotiation is ongoing with the Resource Mobilization Administration for food assistance to volunteers and staff in need.

CRH is supporting vulnerable groups (elderly, people with HIV, among others) in the transportation of medicines for chronic diseases.

Accountability actions include weekly updates of the Emergency Response Plan for International Cooperation and Movement representatives.

The CHR council network at the national level continues to develop coordination and support actions in pre-hospital care for people suspected, confirmed and recovered by COVID-19. The SN maintains a presence and provides support in the clusters activated in the country as a coordination measure for monetary assistance, temporary accommodation, information management, water and sanitation, cash transfers, sanitation and hygiene, and nutrition. CRH volunteers have established 24-hour shifts at the National Emergency Operations Centre in COPECO, from where different response actions are coordinated at the national level. The

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institutional National Monitoring Center remains active, generating reports and following up on the different actions developed within the framework of the response to COVID-19. Key messages have been shared in support of the communities with which it works to raise awareness among community-based organizations.

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**Nicaraguan  
Red Cross  
(NRC)**

**New!** NRC COE's Health and Communication and Information Committees remain active, following up on the event and actions taken. NRC continues to promote cleaning actions, taking the temperature of the personnel when they enter the National Headquarters and cleaning and disinfection of the units after each service and of the private vehicles that arrive at the facilities.

**New!** The staff of the NRC National Headquarters continues to work in an assistance role, which has reduced the presence of staff by approximately 50%, as part of the administrative measures taken by our authorities to protect staff from COVID-19. The campaign to raise awareness and inform the population through social networks, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram is still ongoing issuing recommendations on breathing techniques for stress management.

**New!** The NRC continues its work to protect staff working at the National Headquarters, carrying out temperature control and vehicle disinfection activities, which are extended to users of the services provided by the institution who arrive by vehicle. Distance footprints were installed in the different public service areas to maintain physical distance between users of visual fitness and psychological examination services.

**New!** Technical personnel in Psychosocial Support of NRC from the National Headquarters, as part of the attention to the first line personnel before the emergency of the COVID - 19, they give talks to members of the Area of Relief and Radio for the management and control of stress and the self-care of the mental health, likewise they were given posters about techniques and tools to carry out these exercises.

**New!** The Rivas branch of the Nicaraguan Red Cross is in the final stage of rehabilitating showers for disinfection for the frontline personnel who are responding to this COVID - 19 emergency, with the support of the Ministry of Health personnel who regularly collaborate in disinfecting the branch's facilities. The Nagarote branch of the Nicaraguan Red Cross is continually cleaning and disinfecting the branch building and the vehicles and equipment, in addition to training new staff in this activity that will allow the necessary replacements during operational periods. The Rio Blanco Red Cross subsidiary, The volunteers of the Rio Blanco subsidiary are cleaning and disinfecting the facilities daily to reduce the risks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NRC carried out workshops and sessions on:

- Use and application of the Protocol and Procedure Manual on Infection Control in Pre-Hospital Care.
- Psychosocial Support (PSS) sessions for volunteers and staff members to manage panic, stress, and stigma reduction. PSS focal points have been appointed in each branch to provide emotional support to volunteers and members.
- Promotion of prevention measures and health control for staff and volunteers by the medical team of NRC (taking temperatures, evaluation of symptoms, evaluation of the emotional aspect).

NRC has developed a washing and disinfection policy for the transportation units, and space has been built between the driver area and patient care.

NRC has launched a communication campaign in social networks, television and radio media, and shopping centres, with educational materials on prevention of COVID-19, hygiene, and handwashing and about the control of stress.

Users of NRC services receive respiratory hygiene promotion talks and handwashing through exercises performed by staff and volunteers.

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**Salvadorean  
Red Cross  
Society  
(SRCS)**

**New!** The SRCS held a virtual workshop for its staff (psychosocial support, project and programme managers) on "Protection, Gender and Inclusion in the context of COVID-19".

With ICRC support, CRS donated 10 sprinkler pumps to the Apopa Municipal Civil Protection Commission for sanitation work in the municipality. Fifteen hygiene kits were also delivered to associations of people with disabilities in El Salvador (Asociación de mujeres ciegas de El Salvador, Asociación de ciegos de El Salvador)

During the last two weeks, 1,146 emergency clinic services, 133 pre-hospital services and 34 remote psychosocial services have been provided via teletherapy, e-mail, WhatsApp through authorized contacts.

CRS developed and is already implementing the Contingency Plan for the transfer of COVID-19 positive patients in support of the Ministry of Health (MINSAL). Three COVID-19 positive patients have been transferred to hospitals authorized by the MISAL.

A Guide for the Transfer of Suspected or Confirmed Patients has been prepared in support of the Emergency Medical Service. And the workshop "Preparation of rapid response team in use of EPP level 3" was developed, with the participation of 10 volunteers. In addition, the personnel in charge of transfers have completed the basic courses and prevention measures in COVID-19 participants that are found in the IFRC learning platform.

The Facebook live sessions continue, to answer people's concerns about topics of interest to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last two weeks the topics "care for children in emergencies", "care for people with disabilities in the COVID-19 emergency" and "International Red Cross and Red Crescent Day" reached a total of 11,100 views.

The Emergency Operations Center conducted a demonstration practice on the application of the new guidelines of the COVID-19 Emergency Operating Procedures Manual, emphasizing the biosafety actions that pre-hospital care personnel must follow; these were socialized with the emergency clinic and operations center personnel.

Supplies of Personal Protection Equipment have been delivered to 60 sections in the country, benefiting a total of 800 volunteers. Among the actions that the branches are carrying out: Guazapa branch delivers basic baskets to 30 people who work in circuses, while the Tejutepeque branch continues with the delivery of prepared food to 80 older adults. The Santa Tecla branch has provided support in the delivery of agricultural packages by the Government with prevention and security issues in the Port of La Libertad. During the week of April 20-27, SRCS provided 743 care sessions and attended 89 pre-hospital care services. In addition, 24,000 gallons of water were delivered to communities such as: Manantial las Marías, Barrio San Antonio, Santa Ana, San Antonio Las Vegas, Comunidad la Meca, Sierra Morena and Tikal Norte. Also, 2,000 gallons of water for Centro Obrero containment center, La Palma Chalatenango.

A meeting was held between the Ministry of Education's departmental director and the SRCS's Social Inclusion department to coordinate actions to support the continuity of education in the emergency. Materials were distributed to 21 schools in the

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municipalities of Apopa, Guazapa, Aguilares Tonacatepeque and Ciudad Delgado. And support is being provided for the reproduction of guides for people with disabilities.

The SRCS Institutional Security Unit continues to reinforce security guidelines and the installation of sanitation spaces.

SRCS is providing support in the evacuation of patients from the San Rafael Hospital that has been designated to attend patients with COVID-19.

SRCS has delivered 25 mattresses, 25 family hygiene kit and 150 light blankets in the Mario Zamora's containment center in La Palma, Chalateno.

SRCS women volunteers delivered prepared food to 70 elderly adults in Tejutepeque.

During the week of April 14-19, 744 care sessions were held at the SRCS emergency clinic, and 98 pre-hospital care services were provided. 41 SRCS branches in the country are providing care pre-hospital emergency for COVID 19 patients.

SRCS delivered 10,000 gallons of water to the communities of Canton Ojo de Agua, Caserío Los Gálvez, Cojutepeque, la Flor de la macarena, Usulután and colonia Los Almendros, and Ciudad Delgado.

SRCS delivered PPE and supplies for disinfection to the Quezaltepeque branch reaching a total of 49 volunteers.

SRCS is holding Facebook live sessions, responding to the public's concerns on topics of interest to the COVID 19 pandemic, addressing issues such as "Stigma and discrimination in the context of COVID 19", "correct use of masks", "volunteering in emergencies". So far, the sessions have reached 8,300 people. SRCS held thirteen sessions to disseminate the Manual of operational procedures in pre-hospital care in the context of the COVID 19, with volunteers from 26 branches throughout the country and administrative staff, reaching a total of 216 people. SCRS carried out two workshops on psychosocial support, with volunteers from the headquarters brigades reaching a total of 22 people.

SRCS continues participating in meetings of the departmental and municipal commissions of the National Civil Protection System.

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**Red Cross  
Society of  
Panama  
(PRC)**

PRC is contributing with the transfer of blood donors to the donation centers, those interested can schedule their donation to the e-mail [citasparqueomar@gmail.com](mailto:citasparqueomar@gmail.com), or to the WhatsApp 6469-0975, this way the biosecurity and mobility measures for the donor are guaranteed.

The PRC, with the support of the ICRC, offers RFL services and recently achieved family reunification between two children aged 7 and 4 with their parents. The search for and transfer of the minors was successful, applying all the necessary biosecurity measures to ensure their health, and with the express authorization of their parents.

The virtual platform conversation "Anxiety Management Techniques for COVID-19" was developed by Dr. Ricardo Turner, a psychologist from the University of Panama and professor at the Universidad Especializada de las Américas (UDELAS), and was broadcast live simultaneously on the YouTube channel and the Panamanian Red Cross' Facebook page.

In coordination with Panama's Foreign Ministry and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the CRP delivered bags of food to the communities of rural Cerro Viento and part of the community of Las Trancas, in the district of San Miguelito, with the support of volunteers from branches close to the sector.

PRC with the support of Cobre Panama, developed sanitation work in communities in the province of Coclé, with two tanks, spreaders and hoses supported the distribution of special chemical disinfection, with the aim of reducing the rate of COVID-19 infections in the population.

PRC, in support of the Panamanian Social Security Fund (CSS in Spanish), continues to deliver food bags in different provinces of the country and has coordinated the delivery of medicines house by house.

PRC Volunteers continues to support seven epidemiological fences nationwide by carrying out screening.

In Darién, PRC supported with water distribution and attention to migrants from the Penita area.

PRC continues with the dissemination of the Stay at Home campaign through different media and social networks.

Volunteers from the Colon branch delivered food parcels to 80 families in Ciritito, Costa Abajo.

PRC volunteers are supporting the distribution of medications to homes from the National Social Security Fund (CSS in Spanish).

PRC is coordinating to establish a telephone helpline, as well as virtual online platforms for the attention of volunteers, their families, and collaborators.

Multiple intervention sessions were conducted to provide psychosocial support to the staff of PRC.

PRC in support of the Ministry of Health of Panama, Procter & Gamble (P&G Panama) made available 200 hygiene kits, which are essential for medical staff and internists, delivered in 4 hospitals in the province of Panama and the Foundation Jesus Luz de Oportunidades.

PRC supported the Fundación Amigos del Niño con Leucemia y Cáncer, transferring the children by ambulance to various hospitals so that they could receive their treatments.

PRC with the support of donors distributed bags of non-perishable food and hygiene items to more than 600 families, affected by the restrictions of the state of alert.

46 PRC volunteers participated in a workshop on the use and removal of personal protective equipment, and decontamination (ambulances, basic relief units, logistical support and personnel transport vehicles).

PRC delivered meals to homeless and vulnerable people on Boca Isla, to help mitigate the conditions of lack of food.

PRC volunteers supported the assembly of food bags at the collection point established at the ATLAPA Convention Center during the night shift.

PRC provided support to the Spanish Embassy in Panama, establishing preventive measures for the repatriation of Spanish citizens at Tocumen International Airport.

In coordination with the Ministry of Agricultural Development and the MERCA PANAMA Service Management, a team of PRC volunteers reinforced the hygiene and prevention advice in response to the health alert issued by COVID-19.

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## English and Dutch Caribbean

The IFRC Port of Spain (POS) Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) for the English and Dutch Caribbean has continued conversations with Presidents, Disaster Managers, and other Partners to better understand the situation on the ground and to provide support as needed.

There are ongoing conversations with donors and partners to explore the possibility of allocating additional resources to cover the activities identified under the Contingency Plans.

National Societies have made some adjustments to their Contingency Plans due to the changing scenarios and spread of the virus, funds available, and according to the role of the NS in the national response. The CCST is working closely with NSs to update Contingency Plans and to define and prepare Business Continuity Plans.

**Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society (ABRCS)** **New!** Menstrual Health Day Distribution: ABRCS conducted a World Menstrual Health Day distribution to women and girls on May 28 and 29. Hygiene packages were created as a part of the NS's COVID response while catering to the need of menstrual Hygiene for women. Distributions were done for the 'Sunshine Home for Girls', 'Good Shepherd' and to the female's ward at 'Her Majesty's prison'. Packages contained Sanitary napkins, tampons, feminine wipes, bath soaps, razors, combs, toothbrush, mini hygiene kits, hand sanitizers, washing soaps, rags, and heat & cold packs. A total of 23 packages were distributed to these organizations and for those spending time behind bars even though 50 were initially prepared. COVID-19 influenced the decreased number of the distribution, as Her Majesty's Prison only had 10 female prisoners and only four and seven packages were distributed to the Sunshine home for girls and Good Shepherd, respectively.

**New!** Sign language COVID-19 ads aired on national television (continuously): A series of sign Language were prepared in April as a part of the NS's risk communication efforts, that were prepared for the deaf community. In May, these ads were shared to the Antigua/Barbuda Broadcasting station (ABS) which is the country's main news station. These ads are continuously being aired until further notice.

The Antigua & Barbuda Red Cross collaborated with a soup kitchen to conduct a distribution to the homeless on May 17th. 50 packages were distributed, which contained both food and non-food items such buckets, jerry cans to encourage water storage and hygiene items such as an assortment of soaps, and shampoos.

The ABRCS conducted screenings for persons returning from Antigua to Barbuda. Precautions were taken for anyone who was recorded with a high temperature for any sign of illnesses, to be quarantined for 14 days if necessary. A total of 41 travellers were screened.

The National Society was also invited to conduct screenings for the Irene B Williams Secondary School, on May 18th, 20th and 21st for returning 5th formers as they are writing exams as well as teachers and other staff of the aforementioned school. A total of 159 individuals were screened over the three-day period.

The National Society continues to use its social networking platforms to extend its outreach to the population on the importance of handwashing and social distancing. Videos targeting deaf people have been posted on Facebook.

**Bahamas Red Cross Society (BRCS)** **New!** On June 1, 2020, a BRCS volunteer was hosted on ZNS Television show and shared information to the public on 'Sanitizing home and work environments to prevent spread of COVID-19'. The volunteer also reminded the audience regarding the start of the hurricane season and emphasized Vector Control, preventing mosquitos breeding sites and preventing Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya epidemics. For more information please check [here](#)

**New!** On June 1, 2020 Director General and the President of the Bahamas Red Cross were hosted on Bahamas At Sunrise ZNS Television show where they shared information on Hurricane Preparedness. For more information please check [here](#).

**New!** BRC distributed a supply of PPEs including face masks, face shields, gloves, gowns, and shoe covers to the Princess Margaret Hospital for use by emergency team and other frontline health care workers.

**New!** A wholesale agency donated dairy and breakfast food items including eggs, sausages, and pastries to the Bahamas Red Cross. These items were distributed to the two collective shelters, nursing homes, churches, and people within the wider community whose livelihood was affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**New!** Head Knowles Foundation, a Charitable organization in the Bahamas, donated a supply of rice to the Bahamas Red Cross to supplement food packages for distribution to residents in the community.



*ABRCS Distribution: Hand washing protocols being adhered to before entering the space of the distributions. Source: Antigua and Barbuda RC, June 2020.*



*BRCS volunteer Distributing Donations of Breakfast Items to Residents in the Community. Source: Bahamas RC, June 2020.*

Sessions on PSS and safety tips for Bahamas Red Cross volunteers prior to embarking on their journey to deliver prepared warm meals to people affected by COVID-19 continues weekly.

Bahamas Red Cross North Eleuthera branch continues to distribute meals daily to the elderly, disabled, unemployed, and frontline workers affected by COVID-19 Pandemic.

BRCS continues with its daily Meals on Wheels services in the capital, New Providence to the most vulnerable populations, including homeless people and migrants promoting and maintain social distancing.

On-line-Tracker System is in full operation and assisting BRCS Call-In Centre and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) Unit to facilitate and enhance the referral and enrolment processes for Meals on Wheels and other support Services.

BRCS volunteers are using social media and phone calls to contact beneficiaries and conducting home visits to deliver food parcels, food vouchers, and rental assistant checks. Safe preventive practices and protocols such as social distancing, wearing of face mask, use of gloves and hand sanitizers and handwashing are always adhered to.

French Creole-speaking caseworkers, volunteers continue to interact and collaborate with the immigrant communities through social media, Religious and community group leaders. This support has increased the number of marginalized individuals and families reached and supported.

Volunteers in Grand Bahama and Abaco continue to distribute food parcels, to individuals and families affected by the loss of employment and income due to COVID-19 strict preventative measures

**Barbados Red Cross (BRC)**

Different humanitarian assistance requests have reached the NS, and these are being acted on. The NS continues to liaise with local authorities with regards to way of assessing and assisting in vulnerable communities.

**Belize Red Cross Society (BRC)**

**New!** Belize Red Cross is presently negotiating a partnership with the City Emergency Management Organization with support from UNICEF to conduct the following activities: i) Psychosocial Support for 80 Frontline emergency responders of the City Emergency Management Organization (CEMO) ii) Psychosocial Support for 500 families and Community Members iii) Psychosocial Support for 500 families and Community Members. iv) Capacity building of 80 Shelter Managers in Conflict Management also in partnership with Mind Health Connect. v) Develop a plan for and establish at least three Child Friendly Spaces in the Belize District vi) Provide sensitization sessions on Education and Child Protection Minimum Standards and provide at least 100 disaster kits. vii) Equip 600 families with hygiene kits to ensure basic hygiene items for a three-months period.

**New!** Received PPEs (surgical masks, gloves, overalls, and suits) from the IFRC for distribution among volunteers and CDRTs.

**New!** Reopening First Aid training with first training booked for June 8, and integration of precautionary measures for prevention of COVID-19.

**New!** Reopening Home Care Givers Course to commence on Tuesday, June 30, with participation of 20 persons and incorporation of precautionary measures for prevention of COVID-19.

Ongoing food distribution to 1,179 new families countrywide from Monday, June 1st-Thursday, June 18th, 2020. Ongoing distribution of 1,200 re-useable masks countrywide. Ongoing education on COVID-19 virus and precautionary measures by the San Pedro Branch Volunteers.



*Food distributions in Corozal. Source Belize RC, June 2020.*

**Dominica Red Cross Society (DRC)**

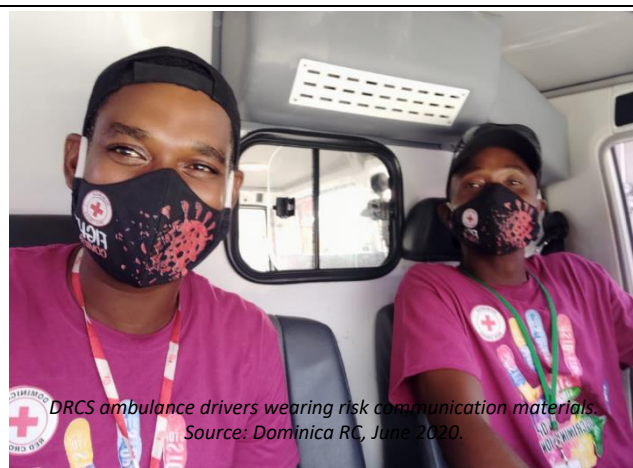
**New!** RBC Royal Bank of Canada funds were utilized to purchase items required for Food Hampers.

**New!** 107 packages consisting of Hygiene Kits, Cleaning Kits and Food Hampers have been distributed in the following communities; Goodwill (4), Portsmouth (3), La Plaine (25), Delices (25), Grand Fond (25) , Good Hope (25).

**New!** Additional 300 Family Disaster Household Plans have been printed for greater reach amongst population.

**New!** Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) assessments currently being rolled out using Google Forms. Volunteers are working with various communities collecting data on individuals impacted by COVID-19.

**New!** PSA's being aired on radio station have all expired. However, the NS will renew as the need to inform the population is ever growing.



*DRCS ambulance drivers wearing risk communication materials. Source: Dominica RC, June 2020.*

DRC continues to conduct awareness-raising campaigns throughout the island. The text message alerts campaign with Digicel continues.

DRC is partnering with IOM to address the gap of lack of communication to the Haitian Creole speaking population and DRCS general PSA is now also reproduced into Haitian Creole. DRC has commenced a partnership with UN-women focused around the provision of agricultural produce to be distributed in communities.

Communication with Nestle for the donation of food items for the NS response continues.

Partnership with IOM and IsraAID continues.

DRC continues to provide support in various capacities as the country continues with the national response to COVID-19



Food distribution - Delices Branch. Source: Dominica Red Cross, June 2020.

**Grenada Red Cross Society (GRC)**

**New!** The Covid Operations Team continues to work tirelessly to ensure the distribution of hygiene and food packages are given to the most vulnerable. Partnership and coordination continue with the National Disaster Management Agency and other stakeholders concerning the Covid-19 response.

Grenada Red Cross continues with the implementation of its Covid-19 contingency response plan while working closely with different suppliers, the national disaster preparedness office, Ministry of Health and engaging with local partners.

Grenada Red Cross continues to share information on various social platforms on the importance of hand washing, physical distancing, and psychological support



Delivery of food and care packages by GRC. Source: Grenada Red Cross.

**Guyana Red Cross Society (GRC)**

**New!** GRC conducted Conflict Resolution and PSS Sessions with Staff and GRCS volunteers

GRC continues with the awareness and sensitization campaigns across Guyana.

GRC continues the hand-washing demonstrations

GRC continues to distribute hygiene kits and face masks to vulnerable groups, such as migrant, elderly, and disabled population

GRC continues to sensitize persons on the dangers of mixing cleaning and disinfecting agents.

GRC continues the Meals on Wheels programme to cater for persons affected.

GRC continues to work on its NS preparedness and readiness plan

GRC continues to support the Ministry of Public Health National COVID-19 Hotline with volunteers.

GRC continues to attend regular meetings at the HEOC and NEOC National Platform.

GRC continues to provide PSS and PFA support to staff and volunteers.

GRC continues to support the Ministry of Public Health Blood Bank with Blood Drive

GRC continues to advocate for persons to stay home and only come out when it is essential



Hand-washing demonstration conducted by a Guyana RC volunteer. Source: Guyana RC, June 2020.

**Jamaica Red Cross (JRC)**

**New!** Project Manager, Kevin Douglas participated in a radio interview on Power 106 to talk about the Red Cross and IGL partnership which served the vulnerable persons in the six parishes that IGL is located.

**New!** Jamaica Red Cross branded masks were created for distribution among staff and the vulnerable people being served by the National Society.

**New!** Staff and volunteers prepared 500 food packages at the National Headquarters to be distributed to the vulnerable persons. Volunteers at the branch level have commenced the distribution of food packages to the vulnerable in their parish. Deputy Director General, Lois Hue and Chairman for the Emergency Services Section have also distributed food packages to the vulnerable in the Dallas Castle community.

**New!** Jamaica Red Cross signed a grant agreement with Nestle Jamaica to assist with the National Society's COVID-19 response activities. Nestle Jamaica will make a monetary donation of 10 million American dollars (USD) in support of the fight against the COVID-19. They will also donate Nestle food items valued at 2.8 million USD.



Jamaica Red Cross Staff and volunteers assembling 500 food packages for the vulnerable persons. Source: Jamaica Red Cross, 26 May 2020.

**New!** Jamaica National Foundation donated 50,000 USD to the Jamaica Red Cross to assist with COVID-19 response activities. The Jamaica Red Cross partnership with IGL Blue continues as they still collaborate to distribute care packages to the vulnerable in the six parishes where they are located. IGL is the leading distributor of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and the primary manufacturer and distributor of industrial and medical gases serving a range of industries.

The National Society continues to post messages on its social networking platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), encouraging people to stay at home and to end the stigma against COVID-19. Photos of Jamaica Red Cross activities are also posted along with important messages or updates from the Government.

The Public Relations Committee, together with National Society staff, developed a video to encourage the public to play their part and stay at home to help fight COVID-19, which was posted on the Jamaica Red Cross social media platforms.

The Jamaica Red Cross in partnership with Bay-C and the IFRC collaborated to develop an anti-stigma video which was shared on the Jamaica Red Cross social media platforms. This video was also shared regionally.

The National Society continues to be represented at the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) in the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM).

The Branch Development Officer along with the Youth Officer continues to compile a consolidated list of vulnerable persons across the island. 11 of the 13 branches have submitted their list of vulnerable persons to be addressed. Also, church groups and other community groups have been submitting their list of vulnerable persons to be served.

Branches continue to distribute sanitation kit to the vulnerable people in their parish with focus on the elderly.

The Jamaica Red Cross partnered with the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ) and the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) to launch a relief programme for COVID-19. The Jamaica Red Cross Society is actively involved in this activity by providing volunteers to assemble the food packages.

**Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society (SKNRCS)** **New!** General elections held on 5 June. The St. Kitts Nevis Red Cross Society continues to work with the NEOC and the HEOC to contain the spread of the Corona Virus.

**New!** The NS has started to circulate hurricane preparedness messages to the public during the Covid-19 outbreak. Refresher courses on Hurricane Preparedness and Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis (DANA) planned.

**New!** The SKNRCS has received a donation Nestle Products in the form of care items from the Rams Group of Companies in SKN.

This donation will assist the SKNRCS in the drive to continue to provide care packages for vulnerable families and individuals affected by the economic impact of the covid19. This provision will be carried out from late May to July 2020

The SKNRCS has received a donation 20.000 XCD in the form of care items from the Rams Group of Companies in SKN. This donation is supporting the SKNRCS in the drive to continue to provide care packages for vulnerable families and individuals affected by the economic impact of the covid19. This provision will be carried out from late May to July 2020

The NS is also in the process of rolling out the Covid19. Response plan with 85,000 CHS funding from the IFRC. This funding will be used to boost public awareness, consolidate internal strengthening of the SKNRCS as well as to provide financial assistance to the most affected families and individuals.

SKNRCS distributed care packages to medical and health personnel in Nevis, Saint Kitts Sister Island

SKNRCS volunteers are packaging and delivering food packages to vulnerable households.

SKNRCS continues to provide, PSS, and Best Practices Information on both St. Kitts and Nevis.

The OFDA Phase 11 of the CBI Project is being implemented with the assistance of a small Management Team. To date 2 local experts have been engaged to assist with strengthening the NS via the development of a "Strategic Plan" and Damage Assessment & Needs Analysis (DANA) Forms.

**Saint Lucia Red Cross (SLRC)** SLCS conducted a second distribution of food to communities. However, the numbers of families benefitting were reduced considerably from 1000 to 225 due to limited resources.

Launch of COVID-19 children's coloring kits. Each children's kit included one coloring book, crayons and a small toy. This is to support education on COVID-19 whilst providing for PSS with the coloring motion.

The SLRC was a guest on the government television network (NTN). The appearance was on the invitation of the network to highlight the work of the SLRC in response to COVID-19 and to discuss plans for additional support. The President and the Communications Assistant represented the SLRC on the show. The SLRC has been invited to a second appearance on the NTN.

The demand for support from the SLRC continues to increase as several persons have lost jobs and there is no unemployment insurance. The NS continues to monitor the situation to identify the most effective interventions including livelihood support activities and PSS.

SLRC continues to distribute educational material on COVID-19.

SLRC is part of a working group developing shelter guidelines in preparation for the hurricane season amidst COVID-19.

SLRC ambulance service continues to transport persons between the country's two hospitals.

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross (SVGRC)** SVGRC volunteers celebrated World Red Cross day, by giving to frontline workers pins with thank you and messages from the public as a reminder to practice safety measures in this Pandemic.

SVGRC volunteers took to the streets to educate the homeless and street persons on what is COVID 19. And proper hygiene practices. They were treated to a hot meal and a hygiene pack consisting of a mask, antibacterial soaps, sanitizer wipes and tissue.

SVGRC is making hygiene packages for homeless on the streets and care packages for indigent and families at risk.

SVGRC printed leaflets and information on the prevention and symptoms of COVID 19. Volunteers trained in PSS under Zika will provide support to local authorities (Ministry of Health and NEMO).

The NS will distribute PSS care packages consisting of stress balls, a comic book on COVID-19, a comic journal for family interaction, and a recipe book. The SVGRC will print bumper stickers for public transportation. Spray bottles will be provided to assist the ministry of health with their sanitation activities. The SVGRC will mount billboard messages in areas frequented by the commuting public.

The NS will assist the Ministry of Health with the distribution of 25 cleaning kits and blankets for isolated people. SVGRC assisted 15 families who have been quarantined because of a person returning from New York and were quarantined with immediate effect and had no time to prepare.

Due to water restrictions and drought conditions, the NS will provide jerry cans for water storage and leaflets on educational material on boiling water for consumption.

**Suriname Red Cross (SRC)** **New!** Lockdown measures have been tightened again since Monday 8th after a second person died of Covid-19 in Suriname. Suriname RC is adapting its Covid-19 response to the new situation.

SRC volunteers continue assisting the National Disaster Office in:

- The hotline service established by local authorities and the digitalization of information.
- Logistical and administrative activities.
- Making home visits to people in quarantine.
- On borders points: checking people temperature and carrying out prevention measures.
- Reception and accompany of repatriates to quarantine facilities.
- Identification and approval of quarantine facilities.



*Temperature being checked at the NDO office with assistance of RC personnel. Source: Suriname RC, June 2020.*

**Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society (TTRC)** **New!** The TTRC adult coping kit was launched and will be distributed soon.

TTRC continue to utilise social media platform to send out risk communication messaging. Food Security measures are still ongoing in the form of food vouchers and hygiene kits. Basic screening ongoing for socially displaced persons in continued partnership with the Ministry of Social Development. Public Service announcements are still ongoing in the various communities.

PSS kit continued to be distributed. We have distributed to the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service, Trinidad and Tobago Regiment, Trinidad and Tobago Prisons Service and Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and their children. Hotline and call centre still operational.

**Netherlands Red Cross (NRC) overseas branches (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Sint Maarten)**

	Activities of NRC branches
Aruba	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID19.</li> <li>• Volunteers trained in the use of PPEs and PSS.</li> <li>• Risk communication materials distributed to the communities (flyers, posters etc).</li> <li>• Ambulances made ready for transport of COVID infected patients.</li> <li>• Plan of Action ready.</li> <li>• 30 meals provided to people in isolation.</li> <li>• 200 meals provided to homeless people last week.</li> <li>• Buddy system of the elderly program activated. All vulnerable elderly receives one phone call a day from their buddy.</li> <li>• Preparing for large scale distribution of food parcels/food vouchers to the most vulnerable people including migrants.</li> <li>• 10 food parcels to people in need by a donation</li> <li>• Social media: pushed PSS + anti - fake news information (no cash hand-outs).</li> </ul> <p><b>New!</b> The economic impact of Covid-19 has been more acute on the autonomous islands Curacao, Aruba and Sint Maarten (CAS). Therefore, in the last four weeks, activities have focused on helping the most vulnerable meeting basic needs including food, hygiene, and shelter. Aruba is one of the islands where the Ministry of Interior Affairs recently asked the NLRC to take on the coordination for the implementation of a large-scale COVID response operation. The proposal has been awarded for an amount of 16 million Euros and will focus on food distribution and hygiene.</p> <p>IM delegate sent for support in cash-based interventions</p> <p>Awareness campaign, food and cash distributions, warm meals distribution, ambulance transport, PSS phone hotline, buddy system for older people, donations of toys and books delivery to the local shelter for battered women, contact with community leaders. The branch has provided training to local government and civil servants, care packages to older people, decontamination of police and security cars.</p>
Bonaire	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID19.</li> <li>• RCB to help registering 225 people soon returning to Bonaire.</li> <li>• Vitamine C and hand sanitizers have been distributed to 80 older people.</li> </ul>

	RC talked about hurricane preparedness on local radio. Awareness campaign, delivery of care package to older people, registration of repatriations to Bonaire, planning food distributions (not yet ongoing)
Curaçao	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID-19.</li> <li>• PSS information sessions for volunteers held incl. PPE trainings for volunteers.</li> <li>• Special phoneline opened for vulnerable elderly.</li> <li>• Ambulances made ready for transport of COVID infected patients</li> <li>• Preparing for large scale food distributions to the most vulnerable including undocumented migrants.</li> <li>• RC Provided materials to the general practitioner working with people without documents on the island.</li> </ul> <p><b>New!</b> The economic impact of Covid-19 has been more acute on the autonomous islands Curacao, Aruba and Sint Maarten (CAS). Therefore, in the last four weeks, activities have focused on helping the most vulnerable meeting basic needs including food, hygiene, and shelter. In Curaçao baby packages are also provided if needed. Curaçao is one of the islands where the Ministry of Interior Affairs recently asked the NLRC to take on the coordination for the implementation of a large-scale COVID response operation. The proposal has been awarded for an amount of 16 million Euro and will focus on food distribution and hygiene.</p> <p>Awareness campaign, elderly telephone hotline, food, hygiene- and baby packages distributions, ambulance transport. Cash delegates will arrive at Curacao on June 12.</p>
Saba	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Risk communication materials distributed to the community.</li> <li>• Contacting the most vulnerable families on the island to find out their urgent needs.</li> </ul> <p>Awareness campaign, grocery and pharmaceutical delivery service, planning cash distribution (not yet ongoing)</p>
Sint-Eustatius	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID19.</li> <li>• Risk communication materials distributed to the community.</li> </ul> <p>Awareness campaign, planning distribution of food or cash (not yet ongoing)</p>
Sint-Maarten	<p><b>New!</b> Branch activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers sessions held on the risks and prevention of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Risk communication materials distributed to the schools on the Dutch side of the island (flyers, posters etc).</li> <li>• Branch will start assisting the local government to distribute 1500 food parcels and 1500 hygiene parcels this week.</li> <li>• Facebook live stream on trustworthy sources has reached 700 people.</li> <li>• RC helped government with distribution of 600 food parcels.</li> <li>• 4 radio ads have been sent out, on health, specifically for elderly, PSS and hygiene.</li> <li>• A WASH delegate arrived on 14 April on St. Maarten via to support the Red Cross Branch and government in their response to the COVID-19 outbreak.</li> <li>• Promotion material is now also being spread in Creole and Spanish.</li> </ul> <p><b>New!</b> The economic impact of Covid-19 has been more acute on the autonomous islands Curacao, Aruba and Sint Maarten (CAS). Therefore, in the last four weeks, activities have focused on helping the most vulnerable meeting basic needs including food, hygiene and shelter. Sint-Maarten is one of the islands where the Ministry of Interior Affairs recently asked the NLRC to take on the coordination for the implementation of a large-scale COVID response operation. The proposal has been awarded for an amount of 16m euro and will focus on food distribution and hygiene.</p> <p>RC providing soup kitchen for homeless three times a week. Restarting Roof Repair programme by World Bank for hurricane Irma recovery</p> <p>Awareness campaign, food distribution, soup kitchen, contact with community leaders, transport of elderly for grocery shopping, planning cash distribution (not yet ongoing)</p>
French Red Cross (FRC) overseas branches (French Guiana, Martinique, Guadeloupe)	<i>Activities of French RC branches</i>
	<p>Guadeloupe</p> <p>The Guadeloupe branch has strengthened its reception system in the containment center to accommodate people arriving at the airport.</p> <p>Coordination with the Regional Health Agency on the health checks during the stopover of these travellers to monitor COVID-19 symptoms. Reinforcement of the EMIS (social intervention team) to cover as much of the territory as possible because there is an increase in requests for assistance from users during the Easter long weekend. Preparation of various actions: response, population information, monitoring and telemedicine</p>

, St-Martin, St-Barthelemy, St-Pierre and Miquelon) and PIRAC regional delegation.		platform, deployment of a light structure to reinforce the Marie-Galante hospital, the establishment of a contact point on containment measures in support of the Marie-Galante aerodrome. Request from the Prefecture of Guadeloupe for the opening of a containment centre in Le Gosier to accommodate 120 people from 16 April. The FRC will propose the setting up of a concierge service.
	Martinique	The French Red Cross has strengthened its reception system in the containment center. Emergency Food Aid to support low incomes populations. Support and monitoring of vulnerable volunteers.
	French Guiana	<p>A WASH project supporting the organization of water distribution and public awareness with prevention messages and social distancing, is being developed to meet the water supply challenges of populations, particularly those living in precarious neighbourhoods. This project is a response to a request from the Regional Health Agency, which noted that the disorganization of water distribution could be dangerous for populations through the epidemic transmission.</p> <p>Work on a mobile screening device to get as close as possible to remote areas Reopening of the PADA (reception platforms for asylum seekers) in preparation and setting up hygiene referents on each site to guarantee the implementation of protocols. The emergency food aid plan is currently being finalised, but the limits to ensure higher management capacity have yet to be estimated. Organization of food distribution and service vouchers throughout the country.</p>
	Saint Martin	<p>The French Red Cross in St. Martin has been mobilized by the authorities to participate in the development of a care access system deployed by the St. Martin Hospital Center. The project aims to detect cases of COVID-19 among precarious populations who cannot or do not go to the hospital for various reasons (fear of being contaminated, financial and/or administrative precariousness).</p> <p>The device was deployed, and the vehicle crossed districts since 4 May. For the past 10 days, the distribution of 150 food baskets has been carried out in partnership with the community's social platform. These baskets allow 220 people to feed themselves for 8 days. The EMIS and the LAJ (a daytime center for people in precarious situations and looking for a social link) ensure a follow-up of the users. The FRC will propose the setting up of a concierge service. To date, 400 emergency kits have been distributed.</p>
Saint Barthélemy	Partnership with a restaurant to prepare meals to be distributed to homeless people. Health control post at the airport for arrivals on the island.	

**British Red Cross overseas branches (Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands)**

All British Red Cross Overseas Branches are supporting with providing information via social media and other platforms in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Portuguese and Tagalog, where appropriate.

	Activities of British RC branches
Anguilla RC (ARC)	<p><b>New!</b> Anguilla RC (ARC) are developing a supermarket voucher programme to support vulnerable families that have lost or have a reduced income, recipients will be nominated by community leaders and the programme is for persons not eligible for Government support. This will be funded by local donations.</p> <p>ARC is proposing to set up a working group on Livelihoods which is currently inexistent on the island, to coordinate initiatives which are supporting households that have experienced a loss of income as a result of Covid-19 and avoid duplication.</p> <p>ARC collaborates with the Ministry of Health and other Government agencies on all things concerning the Covid response.</p> <p>Anguilla RC (ARC) continues to run PSS hotline</p>
Bermuda RC (BRC)	<p><b>New!</b> 125,000 masks were donated to BRC and all have been distributed to senior homes, various other frontline workers, and community groups. BRC received positive feedback from their radio slots on Psychosocial First Aid and have been asked to return for another four-week series from 1st June. In preparation for reopening their Thrift Shop they have deep cleaned it and installed plexiglass in front of the cashier.</p> <p>Volunteers are also delivering clothes from the closed Thrift Shop to shelters for the homeless. Bermuda collaborates with all relevant government agencies involved in the Covid-19 response. Bermuda RC continues conducting checks for those returning to Bermuda. BRC uses different communication channels to raise awareness on PSFA, PSS. BRC conducts free online webinars to frontline workers.</p>
British Virgin Islands (BVI) RC	<p><b>New!</b> BVI RC have reached 25 persons so far with their food bank which supports those who are unemployed.</p> <p>BVI RC collaborates with all relevant government agencies involved in the Covid-19 response. Volunteers BVI continues to run. They have set up a PSS hotline which is available to the public. BVI They are picking up prescriptions and groceries for the sick and elderly. BVI RC have partnered with the government to distribute food items and their office is one of the food distribution locations</p>
Cayman Islands (CI) RC	<p><b>New!</b> CIRC have recruited over 200 volunteers for the national response, 162 have completed training and 75 have been deployed so far to assist at the health services authority, government isolation facilities and buildings, the Rotaract organisation and CIRC HQ. They also have 27 Volunteers on standby for potential deployment to a Government Field Hospital.</p>

		CIRC is working to set-up a knowledge bank and database of all current Covid-19 humanitarian assistance efforts to achieve a coordinated approach. (CI)CR RC collaborates with all relevant government agencies involved in the Covid-19 response. CIRC have an MoU with their government to manage the national volunteer response; to recruit, train and deploy volunteers. CIRC continues to produce masks for frontline workers. The materials have been received by government or donated by the private sector. CIRC is using different communication channels to conduct awareness campaigns on Covid-19
Montserrat RC (MRC)		<p><b>New!</b> The Montserrat RC (MRC) voucher programme, funded by BRC DFID funds, was approved by the BRC Programme Team this week, after approval by the OSBs ETF last week. The programme will provide supermarket vouchers for food and hygiene products. The programme is to supplement Government cash assistance for households who have children.</p> <p>Montserrat RC (MRC) continues to support with a grocery and medicine delivery service.</p> <p>MRC continues to operate the food bank set by the government it – delivering food to vulnerable groups including older people and the Hispanic community. As the economy is reopening, the Government will be implementing a cash programme to replace the foodbank and MRC is in the scoping phase of how they might support.</p>
Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) RC		<p><b>New!</b> TCI RC are running a small voucher programme to provide \$50 vouchers to those most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic - they have distributed 50 so far.</p> <p>TCI RC collaborates with all relevant government agencies involved in the Covid-19 response, which has among others involved the provision of hygiene kits and clothes for Haitian detainees PSS hotline from 7am – 11pm.</p>

## The Latin Caribbean

<b>Cuban Red Cross (CRC)</b>	<p><b>New!</b> 3,566 volunteers involved in COVID-19 response activities in the 15 Cuban provinces (158 municipalities). 276 volunteers are actively supporting the response in 52 of the Ministry of Health's isolation centers (case reception, nutrition, psychosocial support to patients and families, logistics, hygiene, elaboration of materials, among others). Face masks elaborated by 127 volunteers in 35 municipalities (11 provinces). Working with Health and Civil Défense authorities in 23 border control points in 6 provinces. Fumigation of key areas. Continue making efforts to identify population in need of re-establishing contact with families.</p> <p>The National Society is supporting the Ministry of Health in checkpoints, protective measures, awareness-raising, distribution of medicines and provision of services in quarantine centers. Members of Cuban RC operations and relief are being mobilized to support community actions. PPE and printed COVID-19 and awareness materials distributed.</p>
<b>Dominican Red Cross (DRC)</b>	<p><b>New!</b> Volunteers from the Dominican Red Cross, through its National Sanitary Disinfection Brigade (BRINADES), are participating in public space disinfection days led by the EOC. The NS's Dominican Water and Sanitation Team (EDAS) installed new handwashing points and instructions for the benefit of employees, users of the Listín Diario newspaper. Blood Bank has processed 494 donations and 467 blood component outputs between May 18 and 22.</p> <p>Private contribution food kits were provided to elderly people living alone, parents and children who benefit from school lunches. Subsidiaries support disinfection campaigns, together with BRINADES, in hospitals, schools, neighborhoods and prisons in different provinces of the country. The community networks continue to be informed and oriented about social distancing and support distancing among people who attend supermarkets, markets and pharmacies. Personal protection materials and equipment were distributed to subsidiaries.</p> <p>DRC branches work with local organizations to carry out communication campaigns, train municipal leaders and share information through their social media. Information focal points on virtual volunteering have been established in each branch and volunteers access the Spanish Red Cross' Virtual Volunteering course. Psychological first aid is provided to affected people and pre-hospital care staff while a PHC hotline has been set up.</p> <p>The Risk Management Department assigned technical staff to support the monitoring and management of information on the emergency on the IFRC GO platform. Humanitarian diplomacy efforts and actions continue to support improved coordination between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The Ministry of the Presidency activated in April the Provincial Committees for Prevention, Mitigation and Response of which the National Society is an integral part.</p> <p>Handwashing points and instructions have been placed in key locations: Dominican Red Cross branches, the Ministry of Defence, the Central Hospital of the Armed Forces, among others. Close communication and sending of key messages to the national EOC. National Society operators continue to work in the COVID-19 call centre established as part of the National Customer Service System.</p> <p>The Operations Area supports the work of the National 9-1-1 System and makes constant revisions to ensure that the ambulances have the necessary supplies and protective equipment for the response. The Crisis Management Room of the Dominican Red Cross is constantly monitoring COVID-19. The National Community Health team of the DRC works closely with the Ministry of Health and the branches to develop key messages.</p>
<b>Haiti Red Cross</b>	<p><b>New!</b> The National Society in its community outreach activities has shared messages related to the prevention of violence, including gender-based violence. Including protection systems.</p>

**Society  
(HRC)**

Specialized volunteers from the Haitian Red Cross and the Civil Protection Directorate continue with disinfection spraying sessions in different public buildings in the country to protect employees and users who frequent these public establishments (Ministry of Public Health and Population, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Maritime and Navigation Service of Haiti, Grace Children's Hospital, Haitian State University Hospital and National Television of Haiti)

Hand washing points placed in different locations in Delmas 33, Airport Crossroads, Mais Gaté, Delmas and Carrefour de Gérald Bataille and Croix-Desprez. Increased community outreach and disinfection activities in conjunction with personnel from the MSPP and the Civil Protection Directorate of the Port-au-Prince. 22 volunteers trained in protection measures from the Croix-des-Prez branch; sponsored by the Canadian Red Cross.

20 Volunteers and Delmas City Hall personnel were trained on essential protection measures, social distancing, and key messages for the COVID-19 response. Ongoing RCRC Movement coordination to support the HRC in strengthening and adapting its ambulance service to respond to surge the demands of a potential outbreak. Monitoring migration flows at unmonitored border points where there have been reports of mobilization.

A direct line of contact established between the President of the HRC and the Ministry of Health. Working group (HRC Senior staff, volunteers, and Movement partners) created to enhance monitoring and preparedness. With the direct support of IFRC, the bi-national agreement has been activated to enhance support between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, through their respective National Societies.

Activation of a humanitarian corridor to improve the procurement of items in the Dominican Republic. Enhanced movement coordination to support the HRC in strengthening and adapting its ambulance service to respond to surge the demands of a potential outbreak.

## South America

**Argentine  
Red Cross  
(ARC)**

**New!** +4.000 activities carried out since the beginning of the pandemic (60% of the activities have been field activities, the rest through remote means)

**New!** +23.000 volunteer participating in the response since the beginning of the pandemic

**New!** Three planes arrived with supplies to equip the local health system and with PPE for the personnel involved in the emergency. Also, 10,000 thermometers arrived to be used in the "Detect" program of the national government, which is dedicated to the early detection of COVID-19 symptoms, especially in vulnerable communities.

5 COE's are operational. Actions continue in the communities in the north of Salta where a water treatment plant has already been installed to provide up to 60,000 litres of drinking water per day to all the communities affected by the social and health emergency, and work is being done on assistance and health promotion linked to issues such as coronavirus and dengue, among other actions.

Food Security and Livelihoods: Food assistance and nutritional advice to community kitchens, which have seen their demand increase due to the inability of the most vulnerable families to carry out their usual economic activities. In the recovery phase, work is being done with the same communities to strengthen and protect their livelihoods. Responses will be contextualized according to whether they are urban, peri-urban, or rural populations, and according to the particularity of each local economy.

ARC is developing a Comprehensive Plan of Action to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in coordination with the National Government. Two main lines of action have been developed:

On the one hand, in coordination with the Ministry of Health and support for IFRC processes, work is being done to equip the national health system, strengthening the capacity to provide care in hospitals and out-of-hospital centres, and providing inputs and personal protection equipment for health personnel. This line of action is supported by two fundraising campaigns: "Unidos por Argentina" (United for Argentina): a telethon held on 5 April, on national open television channels to raise funds, and "Argentina Nos Necesita" (Argentina Needs Us): a fundraising campaign to which private sector actors contribute.

On the other hand, the National Society is implementing actions through its network of branches and higher institutes throughout the country, focusing on the health aspect and support for people in vulnerable situations. This line of action is being implemented by individual donors, companies, and has the support of the IFRC and the ICRC. Some of the activities developed are:

- Socio-health assistance: assistance in the coordination of out-of-hospital centres and temporary accommodation.
- Tele-assistance in emergencies: remote centre for monitoring, follow-up, and emotional support for more than 50,000 people affected by COVID-19 and their relatives, which operates 24 hours a day.



- Training for health personnel: specific training in intensive care, on-call and respiratory problems for nurses and health personnel, both virtually and in person.
- Support for control and prevention actions: temperature taking on routes, pre-hospital triage, prevention and health safety on public roads.
- Assistance to people abroad and new arrivals: assistance and monitoring of repatriated people and restoration of contact between family members.
- Risk communication: providing accurate information from reliable sources to communities that help combat the distress caused by rumors and uncertainty.
- Assistance to people in a situation of vulnerability: support to the state and other organizations in restoring food and medicine to people in a position of vulnerability, such as people at risk, older adults, people with disabilities, people on the streets, and migrants.
- Dealing with social isolation and psychosocial support by telephone: NS volunteers make calls to the general population, people with risk factors and adults over 60, to provide information on care, psychosocial support, and recommendations for dealing with social isolation.

To promote community participation and accountability to the community, the NS launched the first Accountability Report, which was disseminated to individuals and donor companies through various media outlets, as well as broadcast and published in the media and social networks.

**Bolivian Red Cross (BRC)** **New!** 3,340 food kits have been delivered to frontline workers. A total of 4,200 fumigations have been carried out in Potosi. 1,800 hygiene kits have been delivered as well as 2 kits for cleaning community centers.

**New!** In health, 240 medical care services have been provided, 49 psychosocial support consultations, more than 250 personal protection equipment have been delivered and 2 community sessions about COVID-19 and social stigma have been held.

The work at the "Tata Santiago" camp in Pisiga, on the border with Chile and in Puerto Suarez on the border with Brazil, is being maintained. A total of 3,455 people has been assisted

832 Restoring Family Links (RFL) services have been provided in coordination with the ICRC. Medical care and the delivery of hygiene kits in the shelters for the migrant population and refugees in the city of La Paz are maintained. Since April, 513 medical services have been provided, and 332 hygiene kits and 135 first aid kits have been distributed. With the support of GACIP and World Vision, hygiene and food kits were delivered in vulnerable areas of Tarija, reaching 1800 people, focusing on children.

180 food kits have been distributed to families affected by the floods in the department of Cochabamba. Facebook Live sessions have been held to disseminate prevention messages to COVID-19. - Volunteers have been virtually trained in epidemic control and psychosocial support. COVID-19's information sessions and relaxation exercises are maintained on this platform. With the support of the Swiss Red Cross, volunteers from the Bolivian Red Cross in the Chuquisaca branch trained the city's police and army in biosecurity.

Awareness campaigns are being carried out in the markets of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. In coordination with the Ombudsman's Office, the Potosi branch provided medical care, took temperatures and delivered medicines to vulnerable groups in Cerro Rico (Roberto and Robertito Mining Centre). A web seminar session was held to share the BRC's experience in the "Management of collective centres in the COVID-19 outbreak". Information on COVID-19 continues to be provided through radio and media announcements in native languages and sign language. In the province of Beni, a prison was fumigated as part of COVID-19 prevention measures.

The National Society participates in the National Office of Operations working groups in the health, water and housing sectors, where it coordinates with government agencies and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).



Talks about COVID-19 to police. Cochabamba. Source: Bolivian Red Cross, June 2020.

**Brazilian Red Cross (BRC)** **New!** From March to the end of May, BRC provided services to more than 275,000 people. Among the activities carried out by the various branches throughout the country are vaccination campaigns, donation distribution, city sanitation, and rapid testing for COVID-19. More than 7,800 baskets, 750 gallons of water, 20,200 protective gloves, and about 35,900 masks were distributed during this period. Also, some branches distributed other hygiene products (razors and alcohol). During vaccination campaigns, more than 67,900 people were vaccinated against influenza.

**New!** The BRC hospital is 100% occupied and has two refrigerated chambers with capacity for 24 bodies and four non-refrigerated containers that work as follows: one for recognition, one for disinfection of clothes and utensils, one for support to the funeral service and one for the family reception room.

**New!** The humanitarian logistic hub is distributing 10,000 basic baskets per day and 5,000 to 8,000 hygiene kits daily. The Paraná branch hospital has 53 beds for COVID-19, with the capacity to expand up to 92 beds in Contingency Units for Respiratory Syndromes. The branch of the Federal District is mapping positive cases through rapid testing. To date, the Federal District branch has conducted 21,000 rapid tests.

BRC developed a Dashboard to provide to the Red Cross Movement and Brazilian public authorities with real-time monitoring of the overall panorama of the pandemic in Brazil, the number of volunteers mobilized nationally by NS, partners and financial resources raised and structure and resources materials available for NS's response to the pandemic.

BRC is working with the Ministry of Health on joint activities and dissemination of IFRC material in the media. BRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) migration project has purchased 350 hygiene kits for the migrant population at risk of COVID-19.

**Chilean Red Cross (ChRC)** Some of the actions of the Chilean National Society are aimed at:

- Polyclinic care.
- Support for vaccination campaigns.

- Delivery of emergency kits to migrants, delivery of epp, information and prevention measures to the population.
- Collection of food for affected people and elderly people living alone.
- Visit to people with mobility difficulties and elderly people.
- Support in shelters and to migrant communities stranded in the country and delivery of aid to this group of the population.
- Health routes for people living on the streets.
- Support to blood bank campaign, delivery of food to vulnerable people, support in humanitarian flights.
- Psychosocial support, teleassistance.
- Collection of information for reports and newsletters.

In the region of Antofagasta, the transport of recovered patients in ambulances, health routes for people in street situation and support to blood bank campaign, food delivery and support in humanitarian flights.

The Atacama-Coquimbo Regional Committee is carrying out a blood donation campaign on behalf of the San Juan de Dios Hospital in La Serena, considering that an adequate reserve is required to meet the health needs of the local population.

The El Loa branch is collaborating in the categorization of patients, support in vaccination, orientation and care in various strategic points of the city.

An interdisciplinary team of volunteers from the Esmeralda-Colina branch conducted an educational exercise at the largest free fair in Colina, where they distributed 600 masks to clients and tenants, who were taught the correct way to use them and at the same time demonstrated the use of a sanitation tunnel installed by the local municipality.

**Colombian Red Cross Society (CRC)**

**New!** Within the response of CRC (04 March - 07 June 2020), 226,579 people have been assisted in 27 Sectionals and 142 Municipalities. In services: 19,209 have been in primary health care, 115,504 in humanitarian assistance, 1,941 through care lines, 4,209 in protection services, 35,122 liters of water distributed, 2,661 related to welfare for volunteers and collaborators, 7,347 in articulation with other institutions, and 75,708 in dissemination of key messages.

**New!** Infographic of the operational balance of the response in migration during the COVID context, with accumulated figures between March 4 and May 16, including actions in primary health care (11,843 services), delivery of humanitarian assistance to 29,627 vulnerable families, with 19,594 liters of water distributed, and 2,127 actions in protection.

**New!** Care continues, with restrictions, in the Health Care Units. Actions to respond to migrants in transit continue through the delivery of household's items. Provision of health, RFL and counselling services to returned migrants.

**New!** Courses continue to be offered through the virtual campus. Home care for the COVID-19 epidemic (23,811 participants) and Family Emergency Plan in the COVID-19 period (16,836 participants), International Humanitarian Law (10,435 participants) and Volunteer Management Cycle (1,263 participants)

**New!** Guidelines for the provision of connectivity services in the line of RFL, Restoration of Family Contacts, in a face-to-face, by Doctrine and Peacebuilding. The GAPS teams of the branches provide accompaniment via telephone to the staff (volunteers and employees). Promotion and prevention: Sectionals continue to broadcast messages through radio, television, periphery and social networks.

The second session of the Tripartite Committee, made up of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Colombian Red Cross, was held this year, where it made its statement: The concern about the continuity of cases of urban violence and other situations of violence, cases of improper use of the emblem and lack of respect for the medical mission, the analysis of the Colombian Red Cross Society's Continuity Plan, the perspectives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the IFRC's work with the COVID-19, the results achieved to date with the National Response Plan and the current implementation of strategies to continue managing resources with the #YoDonoEnCasa campaign.

The consolidation of the EEAHE-COVID19 Special Teams for Humanitarian Attention in Emergencies is being carried out, which will consist of the organization of groups of up to 10 members from each of the Sections to strengthen humanitarian activities. 27 national circulars have been issued with the aim of socializing guidelines, measures and actions in relation to the actions of the Volunteers in this pandemic and decisions from the Commission of the Board and the National Board of Directors. Technical assistance to the Sectionals

Telecare for employees, volunteers and family members. The Peacebuilding and Institutional Doctrine team has held 20 meetings with state and private organizations, to strengthen support networks; and also actions in the different topics such as: medical mission, orientation, tools, strategies, RCF, psychosocial support (NNA, parents, families, promotion and prevention, support), gender and diversity, among others. Implementation of the #PacoEnCasa campaign by addressing the following principles Learning not to assault others, learning to interact and learning to take care of oneself.

Development of the fourth national virtual chat for volunteers "Healthy Alliances", during which 115 volunteers and their families participated, addressing topics such as: healthy eating, physical activity at home and nutritional tools in the context of COVID-19. Continuing Education for Volunteers. Virtual courses for the community: Family Emergency Plan COVID-19 (7,575 people), Home Care COVID-19 (14,900 people), IHL (1,116 people).

Delivery of electronic vouchers to the families of the vendors of the Colombian Red Cross Lottery. To date, 936 families have been given electronic vouchers; and 75 telephone contacts have been made to lottery vendors who are in preventive isolation. In relation to the Colombian Red Cross Lottery, according to the National Government's guidelines, its commercialization was reactivated with the appropriate biosecurity measures.

The National Board of Directors defined the use of part of the resources collected in the #YoDonoEncasa campaign to support the situation in the department of Amazonas with medical equipment and personal protection elements, as well as the sending of health professionals for needs assessment.

During the month of April, 1,639 news items were recorded, which put us in the media spotlight and positioned us as one of the organizations with the most media presence. From March 25 to April 13, through the virtual campus of the Colombian Red Cross, 119,579 participants accessed the COVID-19 programmes for the community (59,992 participants) and First Aid for the community (59,587 participants). The National Society launched the fundraising campaign #YoDonoEnCasa, which seeks to support the country's most vulnerable communities and address the needs arising from this pandemic.

Various response actions are being carried out aimed at migrants (delivery of food kits, primary health care, cash transfers), establishing hand washing stations, distributing drinking water and attending to the prison population. The National Society is providing remote

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psychosocial support. As part of the procedures of this service, a protocol on how to deal with cases related to gender-based violence has been developed.

Practical guidelines were developed for the branches "Guidelines for the prevention, reception and referral of cases of gender-based violence, including sexual violence during COVID-19",

Key messages for ethnic populations of African descent have been developed for the Pacific regional offices, mainly on issues related to mental health, prevention of domestic violence through the development of parenting skills.

Shared Red Cross Movement communication to respect the Movement's emblem.

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**Ecuadorian  
Red Cross  
(ERC)**

**New!** Health/APS

- It maintains its participation in the meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team, sectoral working groups and the National EOC. Within the Health Working Group, it works with government agencies on community health protocols for the oil and automotive sectors.
- In the provinces of Guayas and Pichincha, medical care is maintained through the virtual appointment system. So far, 200 virtual appointments have been made.
- Twenty-two pre-hospital care ambulances are still in operation and during the last week 186 emergency calls have been made, especially medical emergencies.

**New!** CCST Lima

- Remote PHC services continue in 23 provinces of the country, and 514 services have been provided in the last week. This brings the total to more than 1,600.
- WASH
- Fumigation continues in high-traffic areas, serving 7,000 households in the last week. Reaching more than 29,000 homes.
- During the last week, two disinfection tunnels have been installed in health centres in Guayaquil.
- The community distribution of sodium hypochlorite is being maintained in the provinces of Sucumbíos, Imbabura, Manabí and Santa Elena. To date, 5,461 litres have been distributed.

**New!** Humanitarian Assistance and Migration

- With the support of local companies and individual collaborations, the provincial boards have continued during the last week with the delivery of 260 food kits and 18 hygiene kits, serving 2,553 people between migrants and the host population, benefiting to date more than 12,000 people between locals and migrants.
- RCF points are maintained at the Scalabrini (Imbabura province) and Casa Amiga (Sucumbios) shelters where call and internet services are available. A new RCF point was installed in the provinces of El Oro and Pichincha. With more than 20 RCF services provided.

In the provinces of Guayas and Pichincha, medical care is maintained through the virtual appointment system, with 850 medical appointments made to date. Three disinfection bows for people and two for vehicles have been installed in the provinces of Guayas and Santo Domingo. The Health Programme, in coordination with other institutions, has collaborated in the preparation of the MIES document "Recommendations for the management of older persons in the context of the COVID-19 emergency in public and private residential gerontological centres and home care".

ERC has worked on the development of job profiles for "telemedicine professionals" and recommendations for the management of newborns with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. The National Society has supported the National Health System in carrying out rapid tests. So far, 3,983 tests have been implemented. The provincial delegations of Azuay, Guayas, Galapagos and Pichincha have distributed food kits for a total of 2,240 families.

The Emergency Medical Unit installed in Los Ceibos functions as an evaluation and triage module before entering the emergency area. The youth unit has developed a set of Facebook Live sessions with topics on mental health, parenting skills, reproductive and sexual rights. With the support of private contributions, it distributed food, cleaning and hygiene kits to shelters and organizations that serve people in situations of human mobility in the provinces of Carchi, Imbabura, El Oro, Guayas, Pichincha, Cotopaxi and Sucumbíos. In addition, the RCF point at the Scalabrini hostel in Ibarra is still active and a new one has been installed at the "Casa Amiga" hostel in the province of Sucumbíos.

The National Society's Permanent Monitoring Room is still active, with regular meetings with the presidents of the country's provincial delegations. In addition, with the support of the Lima Cluster, a regional Concept Note (Ecuador and Bolivia) has been prepared for medium-term intervention through ECHO contributions.

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**Paraguayan  
Red Cross  
(PRC)**

**New!** Paraguayan Red Cross volunteers carry out campaigns on the correct and timely use of masks, especially in crowded places such as buses, service entities, cemeteries.

**New!** The Red Cross with international support is working with hospitals, community centres, schools, markets, and other points identified by the branches to make handwashing a welcome element in all places of community movement.



**New!** Volunteers take advantage of all the services they provide to encourage the practice of hygiene that not only prevents VIDOC-19, but also avoids any other health risk.

**New!** The National Society has daily pre-hospital care services. Considering the required care, they attend to emergencies on the public highway or at home.

**New!** Volunteers are protected during their services, recognition processes, virtual meetings, visits to branches, etc.

**New!** The Red Cross trains officials from different bodies and organizations on COVID-19. Topics such as shelter management, action protocols, use of biosecurity equipment and organization of community actions under safety and protection standards are some of the topics required by organizations that want to optimize their services with the appropriate training in this emergency

**New!** Necessary and complementary inputs were delivered to the Ministry of Justice for its Educational Centers for Adolescents. With the support of Unicef, after offering training in the areas of hygiene, water, and sanitation, use of protective equipment and protocols for action in institutions, hygiene kits and biosafety equipment were delivered.

The National Society's volunteers are carrying out psychosocial support activities in temporary accommodation with children and adults. PRC volunteers supported distributions of food kits and the promotion of proper handwashing, in coordination with the Ministry of Science Education, the Ministry of Children and Adolescents, and UNICEF, in schools. PRC supported health controls and route prevention in the towns of Itapua, Nembu, and Alto Parana. PRC helped with the management of five shelters in the city of Alto Parana. PRC supported vulnerable communities in the preparation of food (soup kitchens) in the towns of Guaira and Nueva Italia.



#### Peruvian Red Cross (PRC)

**New!** Health and SCA.

- We continue to develop and distribute face shields that are distributed to health personnel. More than 250 supplies were distributed to health personnel in local hospitals and medical centers.
- The PHC service is being maintained for the participants and the general public. During the last week, 34 PHC services were provided in the city of Lima and 12 through the tele-health channel. The latter included 107 follow-up calls.
- Remote medical care and permanent water supply are available to the 130 people in the shelters located in Tumbes, while 54 medical care calls have been made.

**New!** CCST Lima

- The COVID-19 enquiry service is maintained via the WhatsApp line. To date, 904 people have been contacted, of whom nearly 25% are migrants and refugees.

**New!** Protection

- The Arequipa and Yslay branch continue to distribute food rations to vulnerable people and street dwellers. More than 2000 rations have been distributed based on local donations.
- The Lima Branch distributed 250 food kits in the province of Huarochirí and provides humanitarian support to the shelter for homeless people staying at the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima Shelter.
- In addition, 10 food kits and 8 shelter kits were distributed to groups of targeted migrants.
- Cash-based interventions continue in the city of Lima. During the last week, 32 deliveries were made to vulnerable migrant families.

Branches in the cities of Ica, Pisco, Arequipa, Ayacucho and Mollendo have distributed the private donations received as part of the challenge #unboxing19. Within the framework of the Call for Migration, 178 cash assistance vouchers (CVA) have been distributed in the city of Lima. 110 protection visors have been distributed to medical personnel in health centres in the city of Arequipa. In Arequipa, shelter and food kits were delivered to migrants and refugees, with the support of UNHCR. The Ayacucho branch has collected donations that will be delivered to the most vulnerable families in the region. RFL care has been provided to walkers returning to their hometowns. The Arequipa branch of the PRC has given masks to the medical staff of two hospitals in the city of Arequipa and a banking center with a high flow of people, who have also been trained in their use. The National Society has provided clean water to migrants in the temporary shelters set up by UNHCR and IOM in Tumbes. Cleaning equipment has been distributed for public spaces. Four hundred hygiene kits are being purchased.

#### Uruguayan Red Cross (URC)

**New!** Conducting a needs assessment in the city of Rivera, on the border with Brazil, in response to an outbreak of COVID-19 to define the next interventions.

Summary of actions taken to date:

- More than 8000 people reached directly.
- 12 operating subsidiaries.
- More than 290 active volunteers.
- More than 100,000 people reached through social networks.
- Tele-assistance focused on the elderly.
- Delivery of food baskets to priority families throughout the country.
- Dinner for migrants.



- Delivery of food to homeless people. Delivery of disinfection kits in long-stay establishments for elderly people.
- Awareness talks on health and hygiene issues. Vaccination sessions.
- Delivery of clothing kits.
- Delivery of diaper kits for children.

*Distribution of food baskets in Paysandú  
Source: Uruguayan Red Cross, June 2020.*

URC National Interventions Teams (ENI for its acronym in Spanish) have been deployed across the country to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable people. URC is working on a needs assessment with the National Emergency System. URC is sharing prevention materials with branches and through social media, including a communications campaign to respond to rumours.

URC launched a marketing dossier to inform the public and potential donors on the different areas of intervention.

The NS is coordinating with universities the incorporation of medical students as volunteers. An online First Aid course is available on the National Society's website, free of charge.

URC is offering remote assistance (tele-assistance) and accompaniment to people, with priority given to the elderly using the Spanish Red Cross mode, including PSS support to volunteers. URC developed a child-friendly guide with information and key messages of COVID-19 that can be downloaded from their web page. The assistance under the Regional Emergency Appeal for migrants is maintained.

The URC through its branches in Maldonado and Rio Negro provided a total of 5,000 food boxes to local people in need

URC signed an agreement with the Government to provide hygiene kits, cleaning kits, and communication materials to vulnerable older adults, homeless people, juvenile detainees, and impoverished communities.

## Venezuelan Red Cross (VRC)

**New!** Training: 499 National Society volunteers are trained in the COVID19 Module of the SPAC approach

**New!** Telemedicine: Telephone attention for medical orientation, with a reach to date of 528 people in 4 states of the country (Lara, Zulia, Bolivar, Merida).

**New!** CEA: The activities developed within the framework of the CEA approach have been:

- Disseminating messages through loudspeakers and flyers with prevention information before COVID-19.
- Hand washing points and educational talks about COVID-19 continue in the transit shelters for migrants in the border states.

**New!** Communication:

- Follow-up to the campaign #EchaUnaManoPorVzla with sportswoman Greivis Vásquez and Fundación Greivis Vasquez.
- Management of guidelines for audio-visuals material (photos and videos) regarding COVID-19's actions.
- Coordination of the campaign as a Movement in Venezuela.
- Alliance meetings with McDonald's Venezuela to support the volunteers.
- Follow-up and orientation of the material disseminated by the branches.
- Timely and effective interaction with the public on the various digital platforms in response to comments or questions regarding the information disseminated by COVID-19.
- Continued broadcasting of micro-radios on more than 200 stations in the country.
- Planning of videos in sign language about COVID-19.
- Preparation of designs such as gifs, computer graphics and illustrated images based on COVID-19.
- More than 30 tweets published in one week of COVID-19 and in which surveys are also carried out to ask for our scope.
- Inter daily publications on Instagram with information material reaching more than 2000 accounts each.
- Publications on the official Facebook account reaching more than 3816 likes.

**New!** Distributions: Supplies (including WASH) are delivered to the Nueva Esparta branch (Isla Margarita) via an airlift. Also, supplies were sent to the Sub - Committees of Ocumare del Tuy and Charallave, both in the State of Miranda.

The response currently being implemented by the National Society against COVID-19 is based on a reorientation of the activities of the Country Plan programmes and the Appeal for Assistance to Venezuela.

**Health Promotion:** Health promotion activities are carried out mainly in the facilities of the National Society's Hospitals and Outpatient Clinics and are aimed at patients requesting health services from these institutions. In addition, these activities are also carried out outside the facilities of the Venezuelan Red Cross branches, through talks to small groups in the community. Since 13 March, 15,277 people have benefited from these activities throughout the country.

**Psychosocial support:** Psychosocial hotlines have been established for the Venezuelan population in five Sectionals (Zulia, Táchira, Guasdalito, Valencia and Falcón). As of June 6, 198 people were reached.

**Epidemiological Surveillance:** The National Health Directorate regularly sends relevant scientific information on the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic at the global and regional levels to the Venezuelan Red Cross Health Network.

During the period of this report, the hospitals and outpatient clinics of the National Society's Health Network have continued with passive surveillance activities. As of the date of this report, 24 sections regularly send their epidemiological reports to the National Health Directorate of the Venezuelan Red Cross.

Since the beginning of the national quarantine, 5055 patients not related to COVID-19 have been treated in the emergency services of the hospitals and ambulatory clinics of the CRV.

The following activities have been carried out with the support of the International Federation:



*Volunteers from the Zulia Section produce posters and material to disseminate key messages. Source: Venezuelan Red Cross, Junio 2020.*

- Bolivar Section: 29 hygiene promotion sessions including hand washing and reduction and prevention of COVID-19 infection for a total of 334 beneficiaries. In addition, they have carried out cleaning and maintenance of water storage tanks, in order to maintain and improve the quality of water in the clinic's supply.
- El Tigre Section: 45 hygiene promotion sessions including hand washing and reduction and prevention of COVID-19 infection for a total of / 579 beneficiaries.
- Falcon/La Vela branch: 298 families were indirectly accompanied in hygiene promotion, including hand washing and reduction and prevention of COVID-19 infection. In addition, a process of disinfection outside the home was developed, using spraying with 2% chlorine solution in the community of the Castillo de la Vela sector, where 236 people benefited. A water purification tablet for 20 litres of water was also given to 50 families in the same sector, contributing to improving the quality of water for human consumption. In addition, with the deliveries of the water treatment tablets and jerycam, a megaphone was set up as part of the dissemination strategy, which gives key messages on how to prevent Covid-19.
- The La Vela Sub-committee, in the Radia de fremedical program fm 93.9 has also disseminated messages on how to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and hand washing, and the volunteers have also developed material to give key messages to the community of La Colina.
- In PASI, CEIS of Falcon delivered personal hygiene kits, and Jerry can with 20-liter water purification tablets to local people. In addition, the event was complemented by a talk on water purification techniques. To 40 families.
- Barinas Section: Dissemination of key messages for hand washing, safe water, water disinfection and protection measures against COVID-19 by On-Line groups for a total of 1438 beneficiaries. In addition, a day of cleaning and disinfection of water storage systems was carried out.
- In the Zulia section, in Maracaibo, four days of hygiene promotion have been carried out, where key messages have been given about hand washing and the correct use of mouthpieces. A total of 68 people.
- In the Portuguese Section, work will begin on supporting WASH water and sanitation programmes for the water tanks of the Central Hospital of Portugal. By means of chlorination and cleaning of these.
- In the Calabozo sub-committee within its facilities to the patients in waiting room is implementing to give through short talks key messages about hand washing, physical distance and use of the mouthpiece, to 10 people approximately.
- It continues to reinforce the key messages about hand washing, use of the mouthpiece, safe water and protective measures to the volunteers in different sections such as Falcón, Carabobo, Táchira, Zulia, among others.

# Europe

## Regional Update

### National Society Response

According to public COVID-19 field reports submitted to [GO platform](#)  
**34 National Societies** are engaged in...



Health and WASH  
**34**



Socioeconomic Interventions  
**32**



NS Institutional Strengthening  
**31**

Produced 10 June 2020



### HEALTH AND WASH

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>11</b> Ambulance services for COVID-19 cases | <b>15</b> IPC and WASH (health facilities)  | <b>2</b> Management of the dead  |
| <b>9</b> Community-based surveillance (CBS)     | <b>11</b> Isolation and clinical case management for COVID-19 cases               | <b>30</b> MHPSS  |
| <b>18</b> Epidemic control measures             | <b>16</b> Maintain access to essential health services (clinical and paramedical) | <b>33</b> Risk communication, community engagement, and health and hygiene promotion |
| <b>16</b> IPC and WASH (community)              | <b>16</b> Maintain access to essential health services (community health)         |  |

## Regional overview

In the period until 8 June 2020, the epidemiological situation in Europe region has continued to evolve and slightly improved compared to April 2020. As of 8 June 2020, 33% of the global cases (more than 48% in April) and 46% of global deaths (more than 68% in April) were observed in the Europe region. The dynamic of epidemic showed its evolution from Western Part of Europe to Central, Southern and Eastern parts including South Caucasus and Central Asia.

Compared to April 2020, the increase in new cases and deaths in Spain and Italy has slowed down, the number of new cases is rapidly increasing in Armenia (144% increase), Azerbaijan (75% increase), Belarus (17% increase), Kyrgyzstan (78% increase), Russia (41% increase), and Tajikistan (667% increase). The top 10 countries with most cases detected are: Russia, UK, Spain, Italy, Germany, Turkey, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Belarus.

In the reporting period, the IFRC ROE COVID-19 Response Team continued to provide technical support to the National Societies (NSs), specifically those requesting multi-lateral support, for implementation of the activities for COVID-19 response. Series of Skype meetings with the NSs were conducted (see below) to provide them with technical assistance on operation issues in their response to COVID-19 to their countries. Wider support has also included supporting National Societies in own income generation activities, including domestic COVID-19 appeal.

The 3-month Operation Update for Europe was launched, regional contributions to the revision of the Emergency Appeal were made, preparations for the upcoming European third EPoA revision have started.

The IFRC Regional Office for Europe is in operational cooperation with 34 NSs on COVID-19 response, CHF 11.8 million has already been transferred and committed to 24 NSs from the funds available in COVID-19 Emergency Appeal and CHF 5 mln is committed through procurement.

## Health

Due to rapid deterioration of epidemiological situation on increasing number of cases in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia and Tajikistan, the IFRC Regional Office for Europe (ROE) Health Team jointly with IFRC CCSTs for Russia, Belarus, Moldova, South Caucasus and Central Asia organized online meetings with the National Societies to provide necessary support to revise and adapt existing Plans of Action.

IFRC ROE COVID-19 Response Team continued to provide advisory support to South Caucasus NSs in the survey “Secondary impact of COVID 19 on older people and caregivers”. Draft ToR for this survey was developed in close collaboration between Austrian RC, IFRC ROE and IFRC CCST in the South Caucasus. The Austrian RC and IFRC will be making financial contributions into this consultancy. Swiss RC is also invited and will possibly participate in this joint survey.

## Risk Communication and Community Engagement

Guidance for Older People – working with the Health, PGI and RCCE/CEA delegates contributed to detailed guidance for NS staff and volunteers for working with older people in the COVID-19 response, coordinating with Communications and colleagues at global level to develop content and channels for sharing the information, also including volunteer profiles of older people, a global RedTalk and webinar for European NSs on older people.

RCCE/CEA have worked alongside ROE Comms colleagues to develop a Social Media COVID Quiz to go out on Twitter.

## Knowledge sharing and technical support to the NSs of the region

In the reporting period, the IFRC ROE COVID-19 Response Team continued knowledge sharing and technical support to the NSs of the region by organizing following webinars on different topics of COVID-19 response.

- **Organizing an informal session with European NS technical focal points on Federation-wide planning, reporting and GO:** IFRC ROE PMER and IM – joined by IFRC GVA FDRS – organized a regional call where 28 National Societies were present. The aim of the call was to provide more details on the Federation-wide planning and reporting framework and its link to National Societies; as well as to organize a brief live demo on GO platform-based reporting features. A call with the same contents was replicated separately to the 5 National Societies of Central Asia as well.

### SOCIOECONOMIC INTERVENTIONS

23	CEA, including community feedback mechanisms
30	Livelihoods, cash support & food aid
11	Shelter and urban settlements
29	Social care and cohesion, and support to vulnerable groups

### NS INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

26	National Society readiness
23	National Society sustainability
31	Support to volunteers

- **Co-facilitating Global CBHFA webinar for COVID -19 prevention.** 14 NSs from Europe Region participated including: *Albania RC, Bulgarian RC, Georgia RC, German RC, French RC, Kyrgyzstan RC, Red Cross Society of the Republic of North Macedonia, Netherland RC, Portuguese RC, Slovenian RC, Swedish RC, Swiss RC, Turkish RC, Ukraine RC*. Several aspects of CBHFA approaches, methodologies, best practices and lessons learned was discussed.
- **Safety and protection of volunteers in COVID-19 correct use of Personal Protective Equipment** (in Russian language) jointly with Association of Volunteers centres organized. In total more than 40 representatives of RCRC of the following NSs participated: *Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia and Uzbekistan*. This webinar attracted high interest of the NSs and agreed to continue to discuss other several aspects of this important topic.
- **Global RCCE/CEA Training of Trainers** was organised – the RCCE/CEA delegate co-facilitated two global ToTs on Risk Communication and Community Engagement and Accountability, reaching around 100 participants, with many drawn from NS in the ROE.
- **European regional webinar `Working with older people during COVID 19`.** On 8 June IFRC ROE and GVA Health, CEA and PGI focal persons conducted a joint webinar with participation of 53 participants. NSs from Europe region including *Bulgarian RC, Georgia RC, German RC, N. Macedonia RC, Slovenian RC, Swedish RC, Swiss RC, Italian RC, Norwegian RC, Czech RC, Hungarian RC, Croatian RC, Finnish RC, Turkish RC, Belarus RC* took part in the webinar. Several aspects of `Working with older people during COVID 19` from Health, CEA and PGI perspectives were discussed.
- **Three MHPSS webinars were conducted: “Helping the helpers”** arranged by the South Caucasus cluster **“Remote Psychological First Aid”** hosted and facilitated jointly with IFRC PSS Reference Centre, (more than 82 participants). **“The main MHPSS priorities for Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia”** (in Russian language) was conducted (more than 20 participants). These webinars were very well accepted by participants and served as an excellent platform of sharing advance experience and best practice on MHPSS.
- **Livelihoods Webinar:** Organized in coordination with Livelihoods Reference Centre. 12 NSs from Europe and Central Asia (*Armenian RC, Austrian RC, Belarus RC, Bosnia and Hercegovina RC, German RC, Italian RC, Montenegro RC, Polish RC, Spanish RC, Swedish RC, Swiss RC, Turkish RC*) participated, where the impacts of COVID-19 on livelihoods has been discussed along with the services of the Livelihoods Reference centre. A [survey on Livelihoods preparedness of National Societies](#), targeting all European and Central Asian NS, was launched in the aftermath of the webinar and is open until 12 June.
- **ICRC and IFRC Regional offices for Europe and headquarter colleagues** arranged a webinar on: **COVID-19 and Engaging with Migrant Communities**. Presenters included: VOICES Network (an initiative bringing together experts-by-experience to advocate on refugee and asylum issues), Turkish Red Crescent, Hellenic Red Cross, and migration, CEA, and communications experts from ICRC and IFRC. During this interactive webinar, guests, National Society speakers and participants shared their insights and experiences of how to better engage people who are migrants in the COVID-19 response.

IFRC also continues to provide ongoing technical support in the area of strengthening domestic COVID-19 appeals with a focus on corporate and institutional donors. A newly established provision of a dedicated technical consultancy in *major donor giving* has demonstrably galvanised systematic resource generation by several Eastern European National Societies.

### Diplomatic briefings

Diplomatic briefing on the Red Cross response to COVID-19 in **Georgia**: The event was co-hosted by the US Ambassador, Georgia Red Cross Society and IFRC Head of CCST for the South Caucasus. The Georgian First Deputy Minister of Health, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Georgia on Human Rights and Gender Equality and WHO Director in Georgia also shared their perspectives on COVID-19 in the country and the Red Cross role.

In **Turkey**, an intense humanitarian diplomacy agenda was implemented during May 2020 with the aim – among others – to raise awareness on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on refugees. An Embassies Briefing organized jointly with TRCS and in coordination with ECHO and DGSA where all key embassies in Turkey as well as UN Agencies were briefed about IFRC taken over ESSN program and the socio-economic impact of COVID on the refugees. Around 60+ people participated.

### Inter-sectoral coordination with WHO Europe

In May 2020 IFRC ROE Health and Care Team continued to develop its cooperation and coordination with WHO Europe Regional Office. ROE COVID-19 Response Team participated in the Regional consultation with Focal Points of UN Agencies and Red Cross Movement on Protection and health in the context of COVID-19. The main aim of this meeting to further coordinate the ongoing

regional COVID-19 response related to the health and non-health aspects of vulnerabilities and vulnerable groups, as well engage with agencies involved in Protection to understand goals, activities, identified gaps in coverage and approaches to social protection systems as part of the COVID-19 response. Upon results of the meeting several working groups was established to address specific topics in depth and identify focused next steps and requirements for joint coordination. IFRC was invited to be part of this working groups.

In the framework of IFRC cooperation with WHO, the IFRC ROE Health/RCCE/CEA Team is considering an opportunity to engage our National Societies in Risk Communication and Perception surveys. Potential countries for this survey is *Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Poland, Czech Republic, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Ukraine*. WHO will request their country teams to reach out to respective NS counterparts.

**Movement coordination**

The “*Joint ICRC IFRC Guidance on the inclusion and protection of migrants in the face of COVID-19 pandemic in Europe and Central Asia*” was finalized and shared with all NSs in Europe Region. This guidance is to support advocacy-oriented communications and to provide talking points when engaging with governments, donors, humanitarian and development organizations, making sure that the protection of migrants and their access to key and basic services are considered in all national or regional level response plans and contingency measures.

IFRC ROE COVID-19 Response Team further developed its close collaboration with ICRC. IFRC ROE Health and Care Coordinator conducts regular (on a bi-weekly basis) meetings and exchange of information with ICRC, Head of Health Sector for Eurasia and Americas, based in GVA. Following main areas of cooperation identified so far: MHPSS, RCCE, PPE use. On MHPSS, close cooperation between IFRC and ICRC Europe regional PSS delegates established, joint actions identified. IFRC and ICRC closely work together in RCCE with special focus on the most vulnerable groups, such migrants, people living in fragile contexts. Since March 2020 two webinars on RCCE with ICRC participation was organized. Currently ICRC supporting several NSs by adapting existing Health/MHPSS programs to the COVID-19 context: *Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Georgia, Greece, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine*.

In addition to the above, regular calls are in place between IFRC Regional Director a.i. for Europe Region and ICRC Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia.

## National Society Updates

All names in green represent new submissions since the last update.

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**Albanian Red Cross** Albanian Red Cross (ARC) distributed standard food packages for people in need - while maintaining distance as well as using protective equipment. Blood donations continue in some branches. Additionally, awareness raising activities are performed through social media about COVID-19 for prevention and sharing facts-based information on the disease. The three IFRC delegates in the country support the ARC in their efforts to enhance the ARC support to the COVID-19 affected families and communities.

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**Andorran Red Cross** Andorra Red Cross has a seat at the National COVID-19 Crisis Management Committee, alongside Ministers and Civil servants. As auxiliaries to the Government we were tasked with providing advice and services including social services and have taken the lead in organizing cooperation among Public and Civil Society actors. The NS in its biggest operation ever, organized the command centre and 1250 volunteers for 30 days to man Stop-labs to test the whole population for antibodies to COVID-19. Volunteers, including psychological support staff, worked beside medical and hotel personnel in shifts 24/7 in facilities set up in hotels for vulnerable persons taken out of care facilities. COVID-19 sufferers were transferred in Red Cross vehicles with personnel in PPE at the demand of the Health Ministry. Volunteers contacted practically all the vulnerable people in the country to ascertain that they knew about the symptoms of the virus and guidelines, identifying those needing regular follow-up calls or other assistance and providing it. Teams organized many services for confined people, including delivering medicines, hot meals, shopping, washing, hygiene and dog walking, disbursing the cost where necessary. The NS provided mobile phones and tablets to people in need, and domestic abuse cases and continued providing teleassistance and accompanying services to its users. The COVID-19 national hotline and the hospital used NS volunteers. Hotels and restaurants and shops donated surplus foods to the RC food bank further distributed it to over 250 people, including some of the 2000 stranded seasonal workers. This is ongoing. The NS ran training workshops on COVID-19, and first aid courses on national TV. The NS is also disinfecting public areas. The NS is preparing for a wave of social and economic problems stemming from the collapse in economic activity in the tourism industry, which is the mainstay of the Andorran economy.

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## Armenian Red Cross Society

The Armenian Red Cross Society (ARCS), as an auxiliary organization to the public authorities in the humanitarian field and the largest voluntary organization in the country, has a network of 11 regional, one territorial and 52 community branches, over 60 experienced and committed staff and over 3,000 volunteers. Armenian Red Cross is the main and the largest humanitarian partner of the public authorities in the COVID-19 response covering the whole country. ARCS is part of the national response mechanism set up under the auspices of the Deputy Prime Minister. From the very first days of the State of Emergency, the ARCS has been implementing activities in response to the needs of vulnerable groups in collaboration and coordination with the Commandant's office, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, all the Administrative Regions of Armenia and the Yerevan Municipality. All other ARCS care services continue to operate in the same mode- humanitarian assistance is being provided to lonely older people, people with disabilities and refugees. To date, the Armenian Red Cross Society supported over 20,000 vulnerable people across the country with basic food and hygiene supplies. 1,500 Armenian Red Cross' volunteers support the humanitarian operation. ARCS Psycho-social support centres operate in an emergency mode, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, in four locations of Armenia: two in Yerevan, the capital city, one in Tavush region, city of Dilijan, another one in Gegharquniq regions, city of Gavar, where ARCS psychologists provide psycho-social support services to anxious citizens and also conduct volunteer recruitment, registration and provide guidance. The centres allow the identification of people in difficult situations, establish their needs and assign volunteers to help with some households needs, including with shopping for lonely older people and people with disabilities. Between 16 March and 10 June, 7 PSS officers and staff responded to 10285 calls and helped with 520 home visits by volunteers. Armenian RC continues to operate hotlines for people who are in isolation and provides referrals and direct services that are within its response plan. The Armenian RC is focusing on risk communication across the whole country through printed information materials, social media and telephone. To-date 69,000 people were directly covered by ARCS' risk communication and awareness raising work and about 135,000 indirectly. Some 7,000 leaflets with the hotlines numbers were printed and distributed to the general population and people in isolation. 35,000 leaflets were printed based on translated versions of leaflets developed by the IFRC. All risk communication materials and community engagement strategies consider issues of domestic violence, child protection, working with people with disabilities, working with migrants and capturing myths and misinformation to further adjust risk communication approaches. Volunteers are being trained in these areas.



ARCS is delivering humanitarian parcels lonely older people, pensioners and disabled persons this month in Vagharshapat, Baghramyan and Armavir communities of Armavir region. Photo: ARCS

## Austrian Red Cross

200,000 regular COVID19 tests were performed by RC staff, 177,000 COVID-helpline calls were handled, and 19,000 infectious transports were conducted so far. Internationally, the AutRC did plan, facilitate and support a EUR 1 Mio MOFA multilateral support package for 5 Western Balkan States in the framework of the IFRC COVID19 response, incl. a MOFA visit to Albania and Serbia on May 28. [Online education material](#) for staff working in a COVID19 temporary hospital is now available for free in German language – translations can be offered/produced on request. Other guidance material can be checked [here](#).

## Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan

All humanitarian activities supporting efforts of public authorities against COVID-19 that Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society undertakes are done under the slogan "We are stronger together". From 28 March till 10 June, the AzRC provided 13,423 vulnerable households, including lonely older people, people with disabilities, migrant families with relief parcels consisting of essential food and non-food support and providing social services in Baku and 53 locations across the country. To date, 1,978 volunteers across the country have been involved in the response and received training. Online COVID-19, PSS, Healthy lifestyle training was provided to 96 NS staff and volunteers, as well as the community volunteers in Ganja, Mingachevir, Lankaran, Astara and Sheki. Awareness raising and risk communication work is activated in all regional branches. 926,000 information materials on COVID-19 prevention were produced by AzRC based on materials shared by the IFRC developed by the WHO and distributed in-country. The AzRC established a hotline in Baku at its headquarters. From 27 March to 10 June, over 4,873 phone calls were received through this hotline. Branches also receive regular phone calls. To date, around 47,000 calls were received. Thanks to six big supermarket networks of "Bravo", "Araz", "Bolmart", "Grandmarket", "Bazarstore" and "Rahatmarket" in Baku, Sumgayit and Ganja, AzRC successfully implements a humanitarian campaign



Volunteers and staff of AzRC are distributing food packages and hygiene kits to lonely older people and low-income families across the country. Photo: AzRC

whereby buyers are encouraged to do an extra purchase to help provide food to older people. Additional information and news about the work of Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan can be found [here. This link explains the work of Azerbaijan Red Crescent volunteers.](#)

### Belarus Red Cross

The BRC continues its work in accordance with the five main areas of activities. Provision of sustainable work of the *medico- social service of the BRC "Dapamoha"*: 147 visiting nurses and 17 junior visiting nurses provide home care to more than 1,500 people. 1,802 volunteers have been recruited to *provide social support to vulnerable groups of the population* (older people living alone, people with disabilities, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> level contacts) throughout the country. More than 20,000 people have been assisted to date. A total of 11,338 home deliveries of prescriptions from healthcare institutions, 5,714 deliveries of food and essential goods, and 10,056 services related to other needs have been provided by volunteers. Personal protective equipment has been handed over to volunteers and social workers of 147 social service centres: 193,114 disposable gloves, 10,292 face masks, 17,940 litres of antiseptic, 250 medical overalls, 707 face respirators ffp2. Personal protective equipment was also provided to social workers in 84 inpatient social service institutions: 42,800 disposable gloves, 2,140 face masks, 4,498 litres of antiseptics, 2,922 medical overalls, 1,400 shoe covers, 1,400 medical aprons, 1,400 medical armbands, 50 protective shields, 18 non-contact thermometers, 4,636 ffp2 respirators. A *multi-channel telephone helpline* project has been launched in cooperation with the charity platform "IMENA" supported by telecom service providers. 24 volunteers provide informational and psychological support. Since the beginning of its work, 954 citizens have been provided with support. *Assistance to the medical staff of healthcare institutions*: Thanks to corporate sponsorship, the BRC has transferred 54,732 tons of drinking and mineral water, as well as 4,200 litres of soft drinks to patients and staff in a total of 83 hospitals. BRC campaign "Medobed": together with various companies the BRC delivers free hot meals to the medical staff of hospitals in Minsk: 7,021 lunches, 1,500 breakfasts and 3,000 servings of coffee have been delivered to 8 medical institutions. The BRC also supports the state health care system by providing healthcare workers from 187 health care institutions with personal protective equipment to date: 169,098 disposable gloves, 7,065 face masks, 11,129.5 litres of antiseptic, 2,694 protective shields, 8,568 medical overalls, 28,346 face respirators ffp2, 3,600 medical caps, 1,080 medical sleeves, 1,190 shoe covers, 680 medical aprons, 150 protective outdoor suits, 1 X-Ray device have been provided. *Assistance to the staff of the temporary detention facilities* of the State Border Committee and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Belarus: With the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the staff of 21 temporary detention facilities received 25,200 disposable pairs of gloves, 25,200 face masks and 2,520 litres of antiseptic.



Belarus Red Cross purchased and distributed personal protective equipment among employees and volunteers involved in the fight against the pandemic. Photo: BRC

### The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina

From 29 April to 5 May, the RCSBiH continued to provide a range of services in support of 2,536 persons encompassing 1,651 households throughout the country, including persons above 65, people with chronic disease and people in isolation mainly by purchasing groceries (91) and purchasing medications (86), paying bills (28) and transport services (4). Most of the RC organizations were also distributing food (732 food parcels and 796 hot meals), hygiene parcels (512), protective masks (3,911), gloves (138), protective clothes (70) and 23 disinfectants received by local authorities or local donors. 4 linens were provided to persons in the quarantine at the Health Institution (Dom zdravlja) Bratunac and 60 litres of water were provided to persons in the quarantine at the Primary School in Karakaj (Zvornik). A reporting model has been established from the branch level up to the NS HQ, in order to encompass all RC organizations within the NS structure. There were 764 calls on S.O.S. phones and 44 PSS services were provided through PSS phone line. There were 50 PSS services provided in the field. Federal RC has continued to provide PSS through their PSS phone line and is having their own system of reporting separate from NS. Brčko District Red Cross continues with disinfection of buildings where COVID-19 cases have been confirmed. In total 109 premises were disinfected in Brčko District and Republika Srpska in the reporting period. 34 branches within the RC of Republic of Srpska and Brčko District Red Cross distributed 483 leaflets/posters. In addition, there were 16 postings at social media. Also, there were 28 minutes dedicated for the presentation of the RC activities on Radio/TV. NS has been very well recognized by authorities for capacities and resources offered at all respective levels (state, entity, canton, municipality). There were two voluntary blood donation activities organized by Red Cross branch Šamac (78 voluntary blood donors responded, 38 donated blood) and Red Cross branch Petrovo (10 voluntary blood donors responded and donated blood in Doboij). In the reporting period there were 76 RCSBiH professional staff and 115 volunteers engaged, with 1,241 hours of volunteers' work.

### British Red Cross

Community interventions: early May, tactical teams have been established in 8 regions with the aim of ensuring targeted support to those in greatest need, and to coordinate multi-agency support. A new partnership has been established to scale up provision of food to those reliant on food banks during lock down/self-isolation. A hardship fund is now in place

and being piloted in two urban centres to target the most vulnerable, e.g. those at risk of/experiencing homelessness and domestic violence. A support line is in place for people to access the support they need. Supporting the health system: interventions to take pressure off hospitals through supporting discharge of patients well enough to return home in 120 hospitals in addition to support to the ambulance service providing medical equipment to enable people to be at home. Towards the end of May focus has been on hospital discharge, ambulance support to refugees and asylum seekers and mobility aid/medical equipment loans. The following has been taken forward over and above the response already in place i.) multi-agency tactical cells are now being established across different regions with the remit of identifying and responding to the needs of people facing greatest vulnerability and falling through gaps in systems providing care. ii.) A new partnership is in place with a major foodbank to distribute food at scale to families and households facing food insecurity. iii.) A hardship fund has been piloted providing cash assistance to people at risk, including people at risk of homelessness and facing domestic violence. Work continues on liaising with government and donors on securing income for the response and also to ensure the longer-term sustainability of the organisation.

### **Bulgarian Red Cross**

In May, the Bulgarian RC has managed to reach out to 28,264 people in need by mobilising 801 volunteers and staff members. Until 7 June, the Bulgarian RC has registered 691 requests via its national PSS online chat platform. Around 40% of all are women. Approximately 44% of the requests are coming from the capital city Sofia which is also the location with most COVID-19 cases. Another 563 people are supported via the telephone lines of the branches of the Bulgarian RC in 6 cities, involving 55 volunteers. The Bulgarian Red Cross Youth continues its dedicated week to online Helfi programme for children up to 4th school grade focusing on children's safety, especially when remaining at home. The Bulgarian RC Mountain Rescue Service continues its search and rescue activities even during the epidemic situation. Last successful cases were tracing a 75-year old lady who was unaccounted for in Vitosha mountain above capital city Sofia. Volunteers of the Bulgarian RC branch in Pleven developed a poster promoting voluntary blood donation since the branch is partnering with local transfusion centre and announcing a week dedicated to voluntary blood donations. Up to 8 June, BGN 857 558 have been raised via the Bulgarian RC national campaign to support people in need. In addition to financial resources the NS has also raised large amounts of material donations worth over 1,185,979 BGN to support people in need, as well as staff and volunteers of the NS, and the work and safety of medical teams in hospitals, police officers and others actively involved in the fight against the pandemic. The Bulgarian Red Cross with the assistance of the Turkish Red Crescent delegation to Bulgaria received 250 protective suits donated by the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey to Bulgaria. The suits were produced in Bulgaria by a Turkish company.

### **Croatian Red Cross**

Personal protective equipment were procured and safety measures for the CRC personnel were continuously ensured (masks, gloves, hand sanitizers). Permanent dissemination on SARS-CoV-2 prevention and hygiene risk reduction measures of COVID-19 illness took place for the CRC staff and volunteers, also for the general population (over 500k materials distributed covering multiple topics, reaching migrants in reception centres as well as the general population, videos and instruction materials have been produced and disseminated on various digital platforms). CRC has 1,600 staff and 3,500 volunteers providing assistance and community-based activities to 20,000 vulnerable people over the country, delivering daily meals and home service assistance to meet their urgent needs in accordance with safety regulations. The Youth and Volunteering Department has designed and deployed an online registration form with database for volunteers. The telecare call centre (0800 1188) permanently operates for the most vulnerable people, open 24/7 for information and clarification of COVID-19. The phone line is also available for people with hearing impairment. To date, psychosocial support was provided to 6,000 persons. For persons in socioeconomic distress, the Croatian Red Cross start with project "Your gift for the right thing" and distribution of standardized food packages for 11,500 unemployed persons. 13 public kitchens provide essential food for the people in social need. An Infographic produced with activity results (1,833 staff, 192,242 home care visits, 80,099 phone calls, 347 tons of food, 10,677 hygiene parcels, 51 wheelchairs, 10 tents set-up, quarantine set up with 706 bed, 2,704 blankets, 550 mattresses, 967 bed sheets, 1 200 towels). On the borders of the Republic of Croatia distributed 37,500 litres of water to people who were on way back home, also to the drivers of a big convoy of trucks. CRC is cooperating with a wide range of corporate, NGO and technical partners, including Croatian Pharmacy Chamber (CPC) and their employees, who are engaged in the Croatian Red Cross volunteer activities for delivering medicine and information to people in self-isolation (older person, people with disabilities). Incoming calls into the call-centre can also be directly linked with pharmacists.



CRC staff and volunteers ensuring support to those in need related to taking care of their animals.  
Photo: CRC

### **Cyprus Red Cross Society**

The CRCS issued informative leaflets on COVID-19 in four languages, English, Greek, Turkish, and Arabic, which were distributed to all units nationwide, as well as to all facilities of the CRCS staff and volunteers and to various stakeholders. To serve the needs of the most vulnerable, the CRCS created the "Emergency Service for Support to Third Age and

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Vulnerable People”, which is available on a Pancyprian basis and is offered one-to-one. The beneficiaries can call the dedicated hotline located in the Headquarters and the request is then forwarded to a volunteer residing in the district concerned. The CRCS, after constantly evaluating the emergency needs of the most vulnerable of our society, is in the process of designing a new psychosocial support (PSS) service. This service will be available to any person in quarantine or self-isolation, to friends and family of affected people, and to the elderly with limited social connections.

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**Czech Red Cross**

At headquarters level, the Czech Red Cross has produced educative texts on COVID-19 for use on websites and social networks and has created TV and online educative campaigns. It works in cooperation with Integrated Rescue System of the Czech Republic. It provides counselling services and has prepared humanitarian packages for people detained on the borders for COVID-19 testing. It cooperates with the private sector and with celebrities, including to put on performances for vulnerable people: “Concerts under Windows” (e.g. clients of the Czech RC senior houses.) The Czech media inform the public on available services including those provided by the Czech RC. The local branches coordinate and recruit volunteers, provide humanitarian aid including obtaining basic food and medical items for vulnerable people and provide transport services for older people, distribute information leaflets, provide or support hotline services, provide psychosocial support, distribute masks and other protective items, blood services, assisting families with home education, and cooperate with hospitals and other social/medical facilities (asylum shelters, seniors’ houses etc.).

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**Danish Red Cross**

DRC HQ has set up two call centres, where the NS on behalf of the Danish authorities hosts a COVID-19 call centre for three weeks. In the second call centre DRC has established a network linking those in need of support services (shopping/walking the dog) with volunteers to support them. More than 10,000 persons have volunteered. DRC is also supporting in running a shelter for the homeless and undocumented migrants, who have symptoms of COVID-19. A phone service platform has been set up so that volunteers can chat with people who are alone.

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**Estonian Red Cross**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak, the state of emergency was declared on 12 March 2020. Estonian Red Cross (ERC) continued with all the activities on branch level in close cooperation with local authorities including food deliveries for older people, supporting people in quarantine, operating soup kitchen, sharing information, explaining emergency restrictions to people and helping to ensure all the precautions are followed in public places like streets, queues, shops, ATMs etc. Four regional coordinators have been involved in the work of regional crisis management centres in close cooperation with the Ministry of Interior.

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**Finnish Red Cross**

The national operation is still in place to cope with COVID-19 and related government regulations. Major forms of assistance are public food distributions, errand services to most vulnerable and remote friend services. Other voluntary services continue as well with limitations, including PSS & info helplines. In addition, the volunteers have provided guidance and information support at hospital receptions. The Finnish Red Cross has launched a situational awareness system for field reporting COVID-19 actions taken by volunteers. The real time evaluation of the Finnish Red Cross COVID-19 operation started at the end of May. The results and recommendations will be completed by the end of June. The interviews will be conducted at headquarters and district level. The introduction of the new Finnish Red Cross nationwide situation awareness system continues. The Finnish government has changed its COVID-19 guidelines on 1 June. As a result, the volunteering guidelines have been refined and updated. During summer, the Red Cross offers diverse online group activities for different target groups.

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**French Red Cross**

The action plan of the French RC in the framework of the end of confinement against COVID-19 includes 3 axes: 1) social support and the fight against isolation, 2) Fight against sanitary isolation and 3) Health prevention actions (communication and awareness actions on barrier gestures and their application methods, etc.) Phase 1 of deconfinement: “Protect, test, isolate” with the setting up of reception centres by the prefectures. The French Red Cross was very much contacted and involved in several departments to set up reception sites for people tested positive for COVID-19 and could not be isolated at home. The territorial units of the NS provide support to the government. 20 departments have set up these cells or have been contacted by the authorities. The operational activity continues and the NS continues the missions entrusted by the Regional Health Agency, particularly in the Ile de France region, at least until 10 July (the end of the health emergency in France): continued reinforcement of the emergency services and emergency response networks; continuation of the reinforcement of the health care place for elderly people ; continuation of the transport of people detected with COVID-19, continuation of Red Cross at Home activities, reopening of clothing social shops, continuation volunteers roams overseas territories. The territorial units of the French Red Cross are providing support to the government. 26 departments have set up centres for people infected by COVID who need to be isolated or have been contacted by the authorities since 2 June. 25 territorial delegations carried out relief actions and 26 territorial delegations carried out solidarity actions during the last 7 days (as of 9 June).

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## Georgia Red Cross Society

The Georgia Red Cross Society with an auxiliary role to the public authorities, in line with its mission, has expanded the emergency response operations in coordination with the Ministry of Health, Tbilisi City Hall and the municipalities in the regions, through its network of 39 local branches and over 5,000 Red Cross active volunteers throughout the country, and over 4,000 trained spontaneous volunteers. In coordination with the Ministry of Health and the IFRC, GRCS elaborated and adapted internal guidelines and an online e-platform on safety and protective measures for the frontline volunteers and staff and has developed training modules. Over 2,5 million people have been reached through printed and online media, TV appearances, online training, and information sessions. Informational and educational materials are produced in Georgian, Azerbaijani, Armenian, Ossetian, and Abkhazian languages. The GRCS MHPSS activities are based on methods and tools developed by IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support (PS Centre) and the IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support. The National Society launched daily Hotline service (0800 000 018) to serve the general public and respond to specific needs. The aim of the hotline is to provide Psychological First Aid (including three principles “Look, Listen and Link”) through actively listening, emotional support to people’s concerns and helping them deal with their challenges. Moreover, the hotline offers general information on COVID-19 and referral to various State and Non-State services. The hotline has received more than 5,500 calls. The GRCS also launched a MHPSS Coordination Platform, including all the relevant non-governmental organizations and professional groups in the country working on the MHPSS response to COVID-19, with the aim to contribute to sharing information, experience and lessons learned between the key stakeholders in the humanitarian sector and coordinating activities to reach and support the maximum number of vulnerable people living in Georgia. One of the crucial services of the Georgia Red Cross Society is provision of humanitarian relief to socially vulnerable people and older people (aged over 70) through provision of food and hygiene items. In cooperation with Tbilisi City Hall and municipalities, there is a focus on training and distribution of essential items. Over 65 000 older people are being assisted with basic food and hygiene items. Georgia Red Cross aims to reach 100 000 vulnerable people throughout Georgia. Georgia Red Cross launched a nationwide campaign for older people with the supermarket chains “Carrefour”, “Agrohub”, “Goodwill” “Smart”, “Magniti”, “Ori Nabiji”, etc. More than 8000 food parcels have been collected and distributed from the supermarkets in Tbilisi alone. Georgia Red Cross is also providing home care services to over 1 000 persons with specific needs and was the leader in this service during the quarantine. It is also involved in encouraging blood donations and supporting the relevant institutions in rapid testing of the at-risk groups.



Older people in Georgia are supported by RC staff and volunteers. Photo: GRC

## German Red Cross

Since 10 March 2020, a specific COVID-19 task force was set up with employees of the German RC headquarters. Furthermore, the German RC maintains a liaison office at the Joint Medical Service of the German Bundeswehr and the Ministry of Health, so that effective communication is guaranteed. The main functions of the task force are the following:

1. Coordination of the German RC headquarters and branches responses and assistance in collaboration with public authorities
2. Conducting operations of the German RC which are commissioned by the Federal Government (i.e. taking care of returnees -care services, MHPSS, medical check-ups during quarantine in a military barrack or other buildings- patient transport of six Italian (region Bergamo) COVID-19 and two French (region Grand Est) COVID-19 patients for further intensive medical treatment in six hospitals run by the German RC.
3. Provision of situation reports and updates
4. Central procurement and distribution of PPE and disinfectants

On 17 March 2020, the pandemic was internally classified as a “state of crisis” according to Art. 5.2 of the German Crisis Management Regulation and this is still in force. A detailed and comprehensive Pandemic Preparedness Plan was implemented for the German RC headquarters, which was developed in cooperation with the Robert-Koch-Institute (Germany’s leading governmental institution for public health). The National Society has communicated about Covid-19 via social media and through press releases. So far 13 million Euros has been raised via a Corona-emergency assistance fund.

COVID-19 responses on a regional/Länder and local level: The 19 regional branches and the Federal Nursing Association of the German Red Cross and its more than 500 local branches conduct a wide spectrum of Covid-19 activities, such as opening of emergency operation centres, operating quarantine facilities, psychosocial support, support in outpatient clinics, conducting Covid-19 pre-tests, support services for people in home quarantine, infectious disease transports, hotline services, care for homeless people and stranded travellers, emergency day care services in kindergartens and schools.

## Hellenic Red Cross

Greece has implemented measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus, from quarantines to school closures and finally to the lockdown. Due to those drastic preventive measures, which were set up quite early, Greece has managed not to mourn thousands of victims like other countries have. After the lift of the restrictions and the lockdown measures, most of the businesses have reopened with strict hygiene measures. Hopefully, we have not encountered any increase in the infection rate. As early as 18 May, Greece took the first step to open the airports and travel to domestic destinations. Gradually until the end of May, the interconnection with some major European destinations will be resumed. The Hellenic Red Cross in order to support the migrants at the Center of Malakasa organized a humanitarian aid distribution of 1,200 individual hygiene item kits, which was successfully conducted on 20 May. A total of 1,189 migrants received the hygiene packages, containing liquid soap for hands, shampoo, body soap, body sponge, face towel, toothpaste, toothbrush, baby wipes, baby diapers, sanitary pads for women and razors for men. HRC's employees and volunteers participated in the distribution, and executives of the IFRC and ICRC assisted voluntarily. Regarding the Region, the HRC Local Branch of Thessaloniki, following all the measures for the protection of the volunteer's health and safety, restarted the educational programs for volunteers, on 18 May. With the reopening of the courts and at the request of the Bar Association of Kalamata, staff and volunteers of the Local Branch conduct body temperature measurements of people entering court premises, while the Local Branch of Loutraki provided the Corinth Bar Association with medical supplies, such as masks, gloves and antiseptics. At the request of the Federation of Judicial Officers of Greece to the Central Governance of the HRC, and following a relevant request of the Magistrates' Court of Argos, the HRC Local Branch of the city began performing temperature measurements of citizens at the entrance of the Court. Furthermore, people are provided with guidance on how to wear and remove personal protective equipment against COVID-19. HRC volunteers from the Nursing and Social Welfare Services of the Local Branch of Thessaloniki continue to operate a Temperature Measuring Station against the pandemic at the premises of the Ministry of Justice in Thessaloniki and Chalkidiki.



HRC volunteers supporting vulnerable groups with First Aid, medical checks and information sharing on COVID-19. Photo: HRC

## Hungarian Red Cross

Supporting families, the older people and those unable to provide for themselves with hot food, non-perishable food, hygiene products and replacement of medicines is a core area of focus in the Hungarian RC response operation. Existing food distribution programs e.g. Meals for Kids and Budapest Catering Program are ongoing. In addition, packages of non-perishable food and hygiene products are distributed to respond to the growing needs as a result of unemployment and its social consequences. Structure of social programs has also been re-designed and adapted to the current situation. Since schools are closed instead of school distribution programs more community distributions are organised. Donation collection points are set up to receive donations in kind in a contactless manner in order to reduce the risk of the transmission of infection. New hygiene and social distancing rules and lockdown measures have been introduced in social welfare institutions and shelters. New regional warehouses were rented to store the aid items and the Budapest Sports Arena was granted for free to the HRC to be used as a warehouse facility. PSS is available through the HRC Info Center on the info line and similar services are also organised at the branches. The Info Centre disseminates COVID 19 information, organizes and coordinates volunteers. Online and offline information materials are available, info leaflets are distributed with the food and hygiene packages. Activities in support of the ambulance service include the transport of test samples to the laboratories, transporting the health care personnel and volunteers taking samples, providing food for paramedics during their shift breaks, and the assistance in entry temperature checks at border crossing points. Hungarian RC vehicles and drivers are at the disposal of the ambulance service. The Hungarian RC is involved in operator and dispatcher services to facilitate the coordination in terms of logistics. Hungarian RC teams support the Red Zones of hospitals.

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**Icelandic Red Cross**

In the reporting period, the Icelandic Red Cross activated a business continuity plan early in the operation. The NS was actively involved in the National Crisis Coordination and local Crisis Command Centres throughout the operation. The Red Cross Helpline 1717 served as an auxiliary health hotline for several weeks and served as an MHPSS hotline as well. The NS operated isolation centres in two locations (Reykjavik and Akureyri). Volunteers assisted people in quarantine and isolation with necessities in several places, mainly rural areas. Red Cross MHPSS teams were activated several times because of serious COVID-19-related incidents.



Volunteer teams are delivering food and other essential items for people in quarantine and other vulnerable groups.  
*Photo: Icelandic RC*

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**Irish Red Cross Society**

On a daily basis, Irish Red Cross (IRC) continues to deliver essential supplies and care packages to hundreds of vulnerable individuals and at-risk populations. Up until the 3 June, IRC volunteers carried out 258 patient transfers nationwide. This included transporting patients to their elective surgeries, oncology appointments, out-patient appointments, and those either discharged home or to step down care. Through the hardship fund, which provides specific support to older populations, 453 grants have been approved, with more than €74,000 distributed to date. Key public health measures continue to be shared online and via printed materials. This includes the production of information videos in more than 8 languages that have been prepared providing guidance on current restrictions per the Governments Roadmap for reopening society and business. IRC continues to ensure that staff and volunteers working with vulnerable groups such as migrants and prisoners have access to the information developed for the IRC response.

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**Italian Red Cross**

ItRC is greatly contributing to enhancing coverage in the delivery of services, reaching vulnerable and most affected alike. Through its hotline, through municipalities-social services and directly in communities, ItRC makes sure to cover the last mile of vulnerability. ItRC ensures transportation of patients and temporary infrastructures next to hospitals for triage system, through its toll-free number and in emergency rooms, ITRC provides support information to the population. ITRC works in cooperation with all members of Civil Protection and other organizations and institutions to ensure essential response for the crisis, including monitoring and health care at quarantine facilities, health surveillance at airports, medical and paramedical support in health facilities. Up to 13 May, altogether, the ItRC field presence included: 800 health personnel among the most affected areas of the Country, especially in the North Regions in order to support the Local Health System, 34,561 Volunteers involved in activities related to Covid-19, 69 means of transportation for the activities related to Covid-19, 130 pre-triage tents and 3 Advanced medical posts. Thanks to the donations received, the ItRC has been able to provide the Local Branches with 150,000 FFP2 masks, 200,000 surgery masks, 5,520 gloves, 2,300 doctor's coats and 3,111 l of hand sanitizer. With the aim of helping the people in economy distress, the ItRC has delivered more than 326,372 food packages received through the donations among the Local Branches. The National Response Centre is receiving an average of 9,000 requests per day, including 1) inquiries about the infection- 4 doctors ensure a H24/7 assistance; 2) psychological support available 24/7 provided by 5 staff and 22 volunteers (also supporting health system personnel); 3) requests for home delivering of food and medicine, with an average of 1,500 requests per day.

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## Kazakh Red Crescent

The Red Crescent of Kazakhstan continues the emergency response, giving priority to socially vulnerable groups. Thanks to the support of partners and the support of responsive citizens, employees and volunteers delivered 4,716 essential goods to families in need throughout Kazakhstan. Support is provided to blood centres throughout the country in disseminating information, as well as in attracting blood donors. The Red Crescent of Kazakhstan collaborates with the city administration of health. At present, one of our goals is supporting clinic employees with trained volunteers of Red Crescent. Volunteers of Red Crescent assist clinic staff to keep control-observing persons, who are at the list of potential contact with COVID-19. To do this, volunteers make calls to persons in quarantine. Moreover, volunteers deliver medicines from clinics to people with chronic diseases and older people. Since 27 March, 2,683 calls were received, and medicines were delivered to 522 addresses. Currently, this activity has been discontinued due to the weakening of quarantine measures. PPE is provided to medical institutions. Ten regional branches launched the production of medical masks. 3,613 masks have been made and distributed. Now, this activity has been suspended due to the fact that the KRC has received humanitarian aid from China. The Red Crescent of Kazakhstan launched a project to inform the public about new coronavirus infection (COVID-19), preventive measures and dispel established myths together with the IFRC and with financial support from USAID. The project will cover all regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including remote areas, in order to disseminate information about prevention and protection measures among the population as efficiently as possible, as well as increase confidence in official sources. As part of the regional emergency relief project COVID-19, the German Red Cross, in collaboration with the Red Crescent of Kazakhstan, has provided humanitarian assistance for families in need. A total of about 1,000 families will receive one-time emergency humanitarian assistance in eight cities across the country. Funds were allocated by the German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Kazakhstan Red Crescent volunteers are delivering groceries to lonely pensioners. Photo: Kazakh RC

## Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan

The RCSK continues to provide support to governmental bodies responding to the pandemic and help the vulnerable. All activities are closely coordinated with public health officials, government agencies and partners. From 28 May– 10 June, RCSK distributed 549 units of disinfectant, 333 units of PPEs, 2,374 hygiene kits, and 11,200 litres of fuel to vehicles within the nation's flexible administration branches who visit individual patients. From 28 May to 10 June, RCSK appropriated 4,597 food parcels, and between 4 June -10 June, distributed 1,060 hygiene kits to families living in troublesome day to day environments. From 1 March to 10 June, the RSCSK distributed a total of 14,989 food parcels and 17,044 sanitation kits. RCSK offers a statics campaign for COVID-19 by means of online networking and dissemination of materials. Since March 2020, RCSK groups disseminated 873,406 information materials to urban and rural communities as well as government organizations across the country.

## Latvian Red Cross

Latvian Red Cross (LRC) has worked without a stop, especially in providing services that cannot be done remotely, such as providing home care; running social centres, shelters for homeless people, crisis centre, accommodation centre for people in crisis (24/7) and day centres (also remotely). The National Society is also distributing food packages (through the 'FEAD' program), as well as buying and delivering food and medicine to isolated people by volunteers, and providing meals in night shelters and social apartments with a support of donations (catering companies) and volunteers. Latvian Red Cross continuously works with refugees and asylum seekers. The Secretariat of the NS has continued work non-stop. First Aid trainings had to be stopped for the whole period of state of emergency, but started again since 23 May with certain restrictions. First aid provision at public events has stopped at least until Autumn. LRC maintains regular communication with governmental institutions and municipalities to work together with local branches to provide support to people in need. The Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Health has appointed the Latvian Red Cross as the coordinator organization for distribution of protective equipment (face masks, disinfectants) - procured by the government – among NGOs. Latvian Red Cross is using all communication channels (webpage, Facebook, Instagram, e-mails) to communicate risk prevention messages. Health prevention materials, including IFRC informative materials, have been translated and posted to all information channels, also used as posters in Latvian Red Cross premises, as well as being shared with partners - companies, universities to be posted in their premises. A considerable challenge has been the lack of PPE on the market, accompanied by with increasing prices.

## Lithuanian Red Cross Society

The NS manages a hotline for people in self-isolation and quarantine, mainly older people, providing psychosocial support, information and guidance. The reserve of the volunteers was established in the three biggest cities of the country. Together with the existing NS volunteers the task of the reserve is to provide vulnerable people with essential

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products and support their needs on a regular basis. The NS is focusing on supporting older people. The “Good neighbours help network” around Lithuania matches community volunteers with persons in quarantine or those at high risk and provides them with practical assistance – a food package, medicine, hygiene items, anything a person needs to survive.

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**Luxembourg  
Red Cross**

LRC has a Business Continuity Plan in place for the critical activities. Additionally, the NS created a coordination cell to answer the questions regarding precautions, etc. This cell is likely to also coordinate human resources if those become limited (an important part of their health-personal comes from the countries around Luxembourg). For the Health Department services (including home-care services, Rehabilitation Center, Home for older people, Blood-Transfusion center) there is work on preparedness and managing the stocks. Additionally, discussions with the Ministry of Health are ongoing evaluating the situation and human resources mobilization capacities.

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**Malta Red  
Cross Society**

The Malta Red Cross is working in coordination with the government in responding to COVID-19 amongst the migrant community. Activities include: Migrant Isolation Unit: Part of the Hal Far Tent Village (HTV) has been isolated to segregate those migrants who had been in direct contact with others who have tested positive for COVID-19. The Red Cross provides the medical assistance to those residing at the center, including the daily monitoring of parameters, whilst taking all precautions recommended. The National Society is also managing a clinic at another reception centre to care for migrants who have tested positive for the virus, with 44 migrants receiving care up to 27 April. In direct contact with the Public Health Department, Malta Red Cross is also in charge of the swabbing procedure for the migrant community. Up until 27 April the Malta Red Cross have done 513 swabs in HTV. This is by far the largest sample of random swabbing that has been conducted on the Maltese islands since the beginning of the spread of COVID-19. These tests have yielded results as they managed to identify a cluster of positive cases. In the coming days more swabbing will be carried out in other migrant centres.

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**Magen David  
Adom in  
Israel**

In light of the increase in the number of new cases, MDA was requested by the Israeli Ministry of Health to continue and increase the activity in the sampling project. MDA continues to focus on nursing homes, while re-opening the drive-through complexes in the four largest cities (Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv and BeerSheva. The responsibility for home sampling has transferred to the primary health care providers since 3 May). Since 29 May, after an increase of cases was demonstrated in the irregular migrants' community in Tel Aviv, MDA operates a sampling station in Neve Sha'anan neighbourhood in Tel Aviv. A similar process is planned for the irregular migrants' community in Eilat, and MDA's role there is still being considered. So far more than 362,000 persons have been sampled for COVID-19 by MDA. Since 3 May, the responsibility for sampling is of the primary health care providers, and MDA samples in nursing homes. MDA teams have taken over 5,000 daily samples in the last few days. Following a request of the MoH, MDA is taking serological samples as part of a serological survey to study the extents of the spread of the virus in the country. MDA's paramedics were trained in the procedure that already started, with the goal of reaching 6,000 serological sample in Beni-Braq within the coming weeks. MDA has several members (staff and volunteers) under home quarantine. MDA is in constant contact with them to support their needs. MDA teams are treating and transporting patients that are under home quarantine and have a situation that requires medical assistance, or exacerbation of their condition, or become symptomatic and are tested positive for COVID-19. MDA is also transporting the patients who tested positive to the hospitals, and those who are discharged from the hospital to the quarantine hotel. MDAs blood services collect plasma from patients who recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies, and provide it to hospitals to treat sever patients. 1,986 plasma units have been collected up to date, and more than 62 patients were treated this way so far, as a new treatment protocol with promising results so far. MDA's volunteers transport the donors from their houses to the blood center for the donation if needed. Several of the donors donated more than once. MDA is preparing for the possible next wave of people getting sick from COVID-19. MDA website has a [dedicated section](#), with all the relevant information and instructions in several languages.



MDA's sampling station in Neve Sha'anan neighbourhood in Tel Aviv. Photo: MDA

**Red Cross  
Society of the  
Republic of  
Moldova**

Moldova RC engages people and communities, online and offline, in promoting behaviours that reduce the risk of contracting or transmitting the virus, facilitate community understanding and acceptance of infection prevention and control measures, and help to prevent misinformation, rumours and panic. The activities of Moldova RC are focused on development, printing and dissemination of informational materials, dissemination of antiseptic supplies (in public transport, but also for older people, families with many children, families of returned migrants), strengthening capacity of staff and volunteers. Through the IFRC funded project "Moldova: Measures to respond COVID-19 outbreak", Moldova RC developed, printed and distributed informational materials on COVID-19 and its prevention. The materials were distributed in partnership with health authorities (through health institutions), post offices (within the post deliveries) and by RC staff and volunteers. In total, 799,540 informative flyers were distributed in 23 regions of Moldova. 70 staff and volunteers were equipped with PPE. Two training sessions were conducted, and more than 75 staff and volunteers were trained. Moldova RC purchased and disseminated antiseptic supplies jointly with health and local authorities. The antiseptic supplies were placed on the local transport vehicles to allow those people, who have to move through the city within the quarantine regime, access to prevention measures. In addition to it, Moldova RC has a focus on hygiene promotion among the most vulnerable categories of people (institutions for older people, orphanages, etc.). 3,790 litres of disinfectant were distributed in 48 regions of Moldova. At least 100,000 people received access to protection measures, including antiseptics supplies. Moldova RC branches are active in the response to COVID-19. On June 2, 2020, volunteers of the Basarabysk branch organized an informational campaign as part of the "Live Now!" Charity event in which volunteers handed out informational booklets "Protect Yourself Against COVID-19 Infection". In addition, the Red Cross provided the Recunoștința multifunctional center for older people in Basarabăsk and the Speranța nursing home for people with disabilities in Sadakliya with disinfectants. Information booklets were also received in all mayoralities and all medical institutions of the region. In Edinet district, financial support was provided for the purchase of food and hygiene products for older people, socially vulnerable people in difficulty with low incomes. 60 food packages and 60 hygiene packages were distributed. In Anenii Noi district, 50 food packages and 50 hygiene packages were distributed in the villages of Ruseni, Albinița, Cobusca Nouă, Speia, Bulboaca. In cooperation with the Directorate of Social Assistance and Family Protection from Bălți municipality, volunteers of the Red Cross distributed 60 food packages and 60 hygiene packages - to single mothers with children at risk, lonely older people, large families and other people in difficulty. Moldova Red Cross with the support of Swiss Red Cross is distributing disinfectants, gloves, masks and protective costumes for penitentiaries. Turkish Red Crescent provided humanitarian aid (PPE – gloves, costumes and masks) to assist the Moldova Red Cross in its response to the crisis.



During the current pandemic, volunteer teams distribute water, hygiene supplies and information to those most vulnerable. *Photo: Moldova RC*

**Red Cross of  
Monaco**

The Red Cross of Monaco operates a COVID-19 call center with medical and psychosocial specific support helplines (anonymous calls to the psychosocial helpline with psychologists available 7/7). Up to 17 May, 3 722 calls were attended. The NS performs home visits to proven COVID-19 cases, contact cases, untested symptomatic cases, with medical and psychosocial support and "home bags" for symptomatic people. From 1 April to 17 May, the NS operated a psychosocial support helpline, 209 calls were attended by volunteers and psychologists. The National Society also provides specific social assistance to people affected by the crisis, such as the deliveries of food and non-food items, (until 17 May, 25 971 deliveries were processed) and other services (dog-walking, etc.). distribution and delivery of personal protective equipment to the Princess Grace Hospital Centre, medical establishments, laboratories, general practitioners, pharmacies, ambulance drivers, fire brigades, etc. The distribution is done either directly at the headquarters in the outdoor garage or drive-thru. The National Society distributes masks at the Monaco train station (8,671 distributed in the course of May) as well as ensures support to the Ventimiglia camp for migrants managed by the Italian Red Cross. The NS operates a [COVID-19 microsite](#) and performs country-wide communication to raise awareness. In May, the NS started supporting businesses and organizations to follow new COVID-19-related physical distancing measures until 17 May, 8 companies were supported. On 4 May, the NS started testing people, reaching 2,000 until 18 May. Since 19 May, the NS provides the Government



Monaco RC supporting the mass-testing campaign of the Government of Monaco. *Photo: RC of Monaco*

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of Monaco with trained Red Cross staff and volunteers for the 1st national-wide mass-testing operation in multiple temporary facilities.

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**Red Cross of Montenegro**

The Red Cross of Montenegro continued with its activities on providing assistance to socially vulnerable people all over the country. Until 25 May, the Red Cross has distributed 50,604 humanitarian parcels (food, hygiene, baby parcels) and directly provided assistance to 35,132 households. There were also 3,135 services (groceries shopping, paying bills, etc.) organized for people who were not able to do that by themselves. PSS support was provided to 3,215 individuals. Number of volunteers' hours is 15,448. Some 130 professional home helpers provided assistance to 1,500 older persons. The call center of the Red Cross of Montenegro that opened on 19 March received more than 4,500 calls from people who were looking for some kind of assistance. As the situation is improving, the communication with people will return to its regular channels, the Call center was closed at the end of May. The Red Cross of Montenegro was able to reach this many people thanks to many donors who were ready to assist. There were many local, national and international companies who donated either goods or funds for procurement of humanitarian parcels. In addition, the Red Cross received support from the government, IFRC, ICRC, sister National Societies, UN agencies, Embassies and international governments.



Red Cross of Montenegro has been operating a call center until the end of May 2020. Photo: RC of Montenegro

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**The Netherlands Red Cross**

The Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC) set up a national helpline for psychosocial support and concrete support requests. The Ready2Help network volunteers is mobilised to support people with grocery shopping and home visits. Red Cross volunteers in the worst hit areas support clinics with non-medical tasks and provide transport to hospitals. NLRC finished collecting and distributing PPE materials to hospitals. NLRC supports homeless shelters with general capacity. Most vulnerable are assisted with food parcels and vouchers. Volunteers are mobilised to support the Ministry of Health with contact tracing and testing.

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**Norwegian Red Cross**

The situation continues to be stable as the Norwegian government continues to roll back and ease up measures that were put in place in mid-March. The number of people that are hospitalised or in intensive care due to COVID-19 continues to decrease. In general, people are encouraged to use the health system as normal, though take extra care if a person is experiencing respiratory symptoms. As of 9 June, 264 390 people have been tested for COVID-19. The Norwegian Red Cross response has consisted of a combination of activities that have been implemented as a direct response to Covid-19, and previously existing activities that have been adjusted to the situation. Existing virtual activities were scaled up and where possible physical activity where made into virtual ones. National help line for children and youth and “digital homework assistance” are two examples of activities that were scaled up to meet the increased needs of children and youths. Replacing “Visitor Friend Service” with “Telephone Friend Service” is an example of a physical activity that was adjusted to meet the needs of those who feel especially lonely during these times. New activities that were implemented include food shopping/delivery to people that are in home quarantine/isolation, as well as patient transport. These have been implemented both as a result of dialogue with local government and on the initiative of local branches. Now that the government is easing up and rolling back many restrictions that were put in place in mid-March, the NS is focusing on assisting local branches with adjusting activities back to a new “normal” that upholds the regulations that the government still has in place. The NS is also focusing on adjusting activities this summer to meet the needs that will arise from the situation.

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## Polish Red Cross

Polish Red Cross, as auxiliary to the public authorities, has initiated Humanitarian Aid Center, which is focused on three major areas: 1) central intervention crisis warehouse dealing with current equipment purchases and distribution; 2) psycho-social support; 3) education and prevention. There are a number of different activities completed and ongoing since the beginning of pandemic in Poland: 1. Social Campaign - PRC, together with AVIVA Poland, has launched a social campaign "Be safe!", with a [dedicated website](#) with clear, few-steps instructions how to prepare for different disasters like floods, heavy storms, heat, frost and the COVID-19 pandemic. 2. Rescue Service - 15 of the 19 PRC Rescue teams are supporting construction of temporary shelters and quarantine camps, transport food in container trailers, and are mobilized with pneumatic tents, power generators and heaters to contribute to municipal civil protection response. It is estimated that 700 people have been already supported. 3. Family links - Tracing service is actively promoting restoring family links through on-line communication with family members, reaching 2,000 people. 4. PRC has provided Easter packages with food and protective equipment to 5,000 people focusing on those who live alone and had nobody to spend Easter with. 5. Food distribution program implemented under the European Fund for Relief to the Most Deprived (FEAD) is continued according to the schedule. PRC has been still transferring food to 113,000 people, of which 10% are seniors. Car manufacturing companies donated vehicles to the PRC to support food distribution. It is estimated that food was provided to 113,300 people in need. 6. Home care - Every day almost 16,000 people with different diseases are visited by over 5,000 home carers. They provide care, support in daily activities. 7. Blood donation campaign-It is estimated that 35000 blood donors have been properly instructed about safe blood donation. 8. Education - PRC basic activities are focused on raising awareness, using infographics and messages about good social behaviour in social media and its website, reaching approx. 45,000 people. 9. Fundraising Campaign - an estimated 180,000 people reached with information on various donation modalities. 10. With the engagement of volunteers, PRC has started psychological helpline where qualified psychologists and psychotherapists are on duty. Up to 46,000 people have been reached. It is estimated that since the beginning of pandemic Polish Red Cross has informed about its activities and supported around 450000 people through different activities listed above. Majority of these activities will be continued in coming weeks and months.



RC staff and volunteers in action for delivering support to those in need. Photo: Polish RC

## Portuguese Red Cross

The NS is providing support in transporting COVID-19 patients, with its 15 dedicated ambulances with a total of 597 transportations. A total of 13,382 people have been tested by the Red Cross for COVID-19, including 6,983 in elderly residential facilities. It maintains 53 social and psychosocial helplines, directly supporting 4,222 people. It is working on awareness raising and prevention/mitigation, with around 44,606 people directly informed. 14 medical field units have supported public health facilities and 21 quarantine areas were also established in support to authorities. The National Society is also engaged in provision of food and non-food items to those in need, through the distribution of food aid (25,260 people), personal and household hygiene items (11,791 people), provision of medicines (1,088 people), assistance with shopping (1,794 people) and care for the homeless (1,256 people).

## Red Cross of The Republic of North Macedonia

The Emergency Operations Center of the National Society has been activated and is gathering, planning and analysing all information received from the branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje. All activities of Red Cross are aligned with and performed according to the SOP of Red Cross and SOP of the Crisis Management Center. The National Society is active since the beginning of the pandemic including raising public awareness on COVID-19, hygiene promotion activities, provision of assistance to screenings at the borders, distribution of medicines for the people with chronic diseases in state quarantines, distribution of insulin for people with diabetes that are in self-isolation, and supporting vulnerable groups of population especially children. The NS is also distributing food, hygiene, medicines, etc. for vulnerable people and people in isolation, and maintains an SOS phone line for psychosocial support for vulnerable people and people in isolation. The NS is involved in distribution of humanitarian aid for the homeless and social cases from stocks and donations. The National Society performs disinfection of vehicles, premises and equipment of volunteers and staff of Red Cross. The National Society actively supports migrants, who transit the country and migrants sheltered in the transit centres, Centre for asylum seekers and centre for foreigners. The NS launched a national appeal for humanitarian aid and has been actively mobilizing funds. The National Society is active on field with distribution of food, hygiene, medicines, PSS, mobilization of funds, resources and helping the vulnerable target groups. The activities that are new in the past weeks are the assistances to the state quarantines with the Ministry of Health. The NS performed the following activities from the beginning up until 8 June 2020: 3,475 people from vulnerable groups assisted with PSS, 5,407 people from vulnerable groups reached with delivery service for food, hygiene, medicines; 14,983 monthly food parcels distributed from donations and stocks; 16,915 monthly hygiene parcels distributed from donations and stocks;

525 disinfection kits distributed, 350-450 staff and volunteers mobilized on a daily basis. In addition to these, the NS distributed 83,514 protective masks and 60,512 protective gloves. To date, up to 85,000 people have been assisted.

### Romanian Red Cross

Romanian Red Cross is working closely with the state authorities in charge of managing the COVID-19 Crisis (State Dept. of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Health, Secretariat of Government,) on one hand to better contain the spreading of the virus and to prevent new infections and on the other hand, to provide the front line personnel with the needed materials and equipment enabling them to fight against the virus and to properly assist the patients, obtaining better results. The NS together with the authorities launched a public campaign in order to keep the population informed with updated and verified information and instructions on prevention. RRC, on national level, based on the authorities' recommendations of the authorized hospitals and medical care institutions for COVID-19 treatment, has distributed tents for triage, medical and protective equipment and other equipment and materials needed for the personnel working in the front line. The NS is distributing on national level information materials on prevention including stress mitigation and also how to maintain well-being in this period of crisis and lock-down. On local level, RRC branches are working with the County Committees for Emergency Situations, with the General Directions for Social assistance, with Directions of Public Health, Prefecture and Municipalities. RRC has been designated by the state authorities at governmental level as main actor to receive donations both cash and in-kind and to supply/deliver to the hospitals, personnel working in front line and other categories in need with products and specific materials. RRC open for that different channels for donations, as: SMS campaign for donations (available only on national level through Romanian mobile phones networks) and online donations (available on the RRC website) as well as corporate partnerships for cash and in-kind donations. Romanian Red Cross also launch a national campaign named "#RomaniaSalveazaRomania to support the hospital and first responders with equipment. The Romanian RC is working in cooperation with other NGOs for assisting the most vulnerable people in need: Concordia, Romanian National Council for Refugees, UNICEF, Association Schools of our villages, National Council of Disabilities, Value the life, etc.



Romanian RC delivering donations to medical institutions. Photo: Romanian RC

### The Russian Red Cross Society

As of 9 June, more than 485,000 COVID-19 cases and 6,000 deaths due to COVID-19 are confirmed in Russia. Almost all the National Society's branches have been mobilized. More than 4,000 Russian Red Cross volunteers and staff are providing critical support to communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Red Cross teams are distributing masks to public transport staff, providing food and water to some hospitals: more than 2,000,000 masks distributed and 12,000 masks produced by local Red Cross branches, humanitarian aid in the amount of more than CHF 300,000 (food and hygiene kits, vitamins and cream from Bayer, clothing) was transferred to health facilities. The Russian Red Cross focuses its efforts on helping those most vulnerable, including migrants and those experiencing homelessness. Teams are distributing food and hygiene items to older people, those living with chronic diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis, people with disabilities and other vulnerable households. More than 20,000 vulnerable migrants have been supported with more than 5 tonnes of food and hygiene kits. The National Society also runs a phone line where older people can request assistance in food delivery and rubbish collection. More than 18,000 appeals were received by the Russian red cross hotlines. Food, hygiene items and medicine delivered to more than 50,000 people. More than 1,000 people are under the permanent patronage of the Russian red cross (nursing service). The Russian Red Cross is conducting information and awareness-raising activities in media, public areas, via social networks, telephone hotlines. Red Cross teams are organizing COVID-19 information sessions in public areas such as shopping centres and universities. The National Society also provides reliable information on how to protect oneself from COVID-19, how to cope with isolation and how to manage stress. More than 7,000 vulnerable people supported through Red Cross operated telephone hotline, including psychosocial support.



RRC staff and volunteers delivering parcels in support of the vulnerable groups. Photo: RRC

### Red Cross of San Marino

The Red Cross of San Marino is responding to COVID-19 emergency through the provision of clinical and paramedical services in the hospital of San Marino as well as emergency social services for quarantined individuals. Regarding clinical

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and paramedical services at the hospital of San Marino, 20 services are performed monthly with shifts of 6 hours. During these services, the volunteer staff of the San Marino Red Cross carries out patient assistance activities. In addition, the Red Cross of San Marino, in collaboration with the hospital, carries out both emergency and non-emergency patient transport services for patients with COVID-19. The number of these services is 40 per month. For quarantined people, the San Marino Red Cross carries out home care services and transport of COVID-19 patients to health facilities for medical visits. The number of these services is 20 per month. The number of active volunteers in both services is 25.

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### The Red Cross of Serbia

On 15 March 2020, the President of Serbia, the Prime Minister of Serbian Government and the Chairperson of the National Assembly jointly declared the State of Emergency on the whole Serbian territory. After this declaration, the Sector for Emergency of the Ministry of Interior has operationally engaged the Red Cross of Serbia in order to assist older and the most vulnerable citizens. The National Society has been involved in risk communication, community engagement, and health and hygiene promotion as well as mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS). There are 128 telephone info centres and four SMS-based services for use by hearing-impaired persons, all providing psychosocial support to the public. Additionally, a HQ info line offers



RC staff and volunteers supporting the most vulnerable groups of the population with food parcels. *Photo: Red Cross of Serbia*

services of a psychologist, a doctor and the Commissioner for Protection of Equality. A telephone tracing service helps restore family ties with relatives abroad. An online app, "Red Cross for You" is in service for users to request specific services at the location they provide. Another called "Let's talk" for psychosocial support, will be available soon. In terms of socio-economic interventions, it is involved in livelihoods, cash support and food aid, social care and cohesion, and support to vulnerable groups. UN Agencies (UNFPA and UN Women) have contacted the National Society and provided support: purchase and distribution of hygiene and food parcels for vulnerable population (older persons living alone, vulnerable women) as well as support for telephone based psychosocial support and legal advice.

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### Slovak Red Cross

Current activities of Slovak RC staff and volunteers include assisting people accommodated at state quarantine centres; a mobile unit run by the Slovak RC regional branch has started COVID-19 testing in a broader region; the Slovak RC regional branches are reaching out to homeless people, checking their health status, measuring body temperature, distributing protective masks, providing basic information on COVID-19, together with charities securing their basic needs (food, blankets, etc.); and several regional branches in bigger towns have been approached by municipalities and they may soon start being involved in quarantine centres for homeless people. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic has declared all the social services facilities (including those run by the Slovak Red Cross) to be subjects of economic mobilization – in order to maintain the smooth and secured running of these services.

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### Slovenian Red Cross

The NS ensured home delivery of food and non-food items (medicine, person hygiene items, firewood, etc.) to the older people and other vulnerable groups with no financial or other means of provision. The NS provided hot meals, PPEs and assistance in securing a shelter or an accommodation to the homeless as well as distributed clothing, footwear and hygiene items to migrants in reception centres. The NS ensures transportation for vulnerable groups to the doctor check-ups and other urgent appointments. The NS maintains phone lines offering PSS, COVID-19 information and support requests from the public. The National Society has been ensuring digital learning aid for schooling children via internet. The NS is helping at care homes for older people and provides health care to the homeless in Ljubljana by SRC IMT1 team. The NS is engaged in home delivery of food parcels, hygiene kits and/or hot meals to vulnerable persons; and continues the distribution (under COVID-19 precaution/prevention regime) of food parcels and hot meals at humanitarian centres of local branches. The National Society continues the organization of blood-drives, under COVID-19 precaution/prevention regime. The possible donors are invited individually by SMS after which a blood donation appointment is made. The NS continuously informs and raises awareness of the public on its COVID-19 prevention and response measures. Most national media coverage on SRC COVID-19 related activities, together with SRC COVID-19 related information and photo/video reports on SRC engagement in local/national communities are available via [SRC Facebook profile](#). SRC continues to regularly coordinate its provision of support to persons with granted international protection and asylum seekers with all other relevant counterparts in Slovenia, within regular coordination meetings held by UNHCR.

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**Spanish Red Cross**

The Spanish Red Cross has been adapting regular services and activities, adopting new measures and supporting public authorities through the Red Cross's RESPONDE Plan, that has been reviewed up to CHF 74 M and extended until December 2020 with a bigger focus on social inclusion, employability and education activities while maintaining emergency and health related activities, and preparedness for eventual second waves. Relief services are more stabilized and decreasing. Since the beginning of the operation, the Spanish Red Cross has supported 102 shelters for homeless people (more than 4,500 people), the establishment of 30 temporary health infrastructures, 42 PSS teams have delivered more than 5500 interventions and more than 2,2 M units of PPEs have been distributed. The collaboration of Spanish Red Cross hospitals with COVID-19 patients has finished and they are gradually resuming regular services and postponed procedures. Health services are focused on the dissemination of prevention measures and attention to particularly vulnerable groups. Besides general awareness raising campaigns through social media and others, more than 732,000 people have been contacted with information on prevention measures, risks, myths, etc. There has been follow-up of basic health



Spanish RC distributing information materials.  
Photo: Spanish RC

indicators with more than 31,800 people and the PSS hotline has reached more than 3,500 people. Social Inclusion activities have been mainly focused on coverage of basic needs with in-kind distributions reaching more than 465,000 people and cash assistance reaching more than 51000 people as well as emotional support and accompaniment by phone for people in social isolation (more than 232,300 people reached) and accompaniment for essential procedures, procedures to access public social benefits (with more than 370,000 people reached). Employability related activities are growing with more than 22,300 people participating in labour orientation. Access to school and fighting the digital gap is another priority with Red Cross Youth supporting more than 12,800 children with more than 69,000 activities. Over 410,000 people (staff, volunteers and general public) have completed at least one of the COVID-19, first aid, emotional wellbeing, etc. online courses. More than 49,100 volunteers have been mobilized for this emergency, of which 25,300 are new.

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**Swedish Red Cross**

The mission of the Swedish Red Cross interventions is to support and fill gaps in disaster relief to people in need, with a special focus on particularly vulnerable groups. The domestic response consists of several nationwide operations targeting all municipalities in the country, based on needs and requests. Nationally, Swedish Red Cross continues with information activities and safe meeting places in socioeconomic vulnerable areas with the aim of providing information, psychosocial support and alleviating anxiety in different languages to reach as many as possible. 16 operations in 11 areas reached 3,690 people. Lunches were served to families in need, 200 deliveries each week. The Swedish Red Cross is also continuing the locally based collaborations with municipalities across the country to reach isolated and at-risk groups with information, food and medication. 8,477 deliveries were made in 95 municipalities under an agreement with the Swedish Contingencies agency. Psychosocial support at 4 emergency hospitals reached 1,469 people. The hotline on covid19 received 973 calls. 38 transfers of protection equipment were delivered to emergency hospitals and companies/authorities as part of an agreement with the National Board of Health and Welfare. More than 100 local branches have adapted or started new activities related to the Corona outbreak and include awareness raising, health education, assistance to the elderly and other vulnerable groups, and community-based support activities. Volunteer services at migration detention centers and custodies have developed digital alternatives to maintain psychosocial support. Based on the current scope of the response, an estimated 10,000 people are reached with some form of assistance. As the outbreak evolves, the Swedish Red Cross will adapt and adjust its strategy accordingly.

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**Swiss Red Cross**

The SRC has committed 1 mIn Swiss francs in bilateral COVID-19-support with partner HNSs. The respective HNSs concentrate their efforts on increasing preparedness, reducing the spread of COVID-19 through information and supporting community support mechanisms, mitigating the health and economic consequences of the pandemic and securing the business continuity of the NS. Multilaterally, the SRC has committed CHF 800,000 to the IFRC appeal to allow for further strategic and conceptual support in the form of un-earmarked funding. Domestically, the SRC runs a COVID-19- drive-thru test center in Bern in which approximately 150 tests have been performed. The test centre's key objective is to follow the WHO recommendations for increased testing in order to gain a better understanding of national infection rates and to support the national health system in its screening and mitigation efforts. SRC has also increased its efforts in serving the most vulnerable groups such as older people by increasing volunteer services which provide grocery shopping, telephone-based psycho-social support and letter writing. The matching platform 5up which matches

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volunteers with the vulnerable has seen an unexpected surge in use which has carefully been managed to meet demands.

### Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan

Up to 9 June, the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan (RCST) project volunteers conducted educational sessions among 587,840 people in rural and urban communities and 369,707 schoolchildren. In May, up to 100 social spaces, including house for elderly, stadiums, bus-stops, shops, supermarkets and other spaces were disinfected. In cooperation with the MoH, Road Police Main Department were conducted public awareness campaigns using megaphones in Dushanbe, Bokhtar and Khujand cities. Overall, 12 information campaigns were conducted in central streets and micro districts with coverage of more than 12,000 people. In cooperation with a local NGO, RCST conducted educational trainings for the medical staff of the Department for Prisons Management on prevention of spreading COVID-19 in prisons and conducting protocols for epidemiological surveillance. A training on appropriate use of PPEs was also organized, reaching 100 doctors. In the framework of cooperation with UNICEF, RCST is responsible for warehousing and delivering of humanitarian aid to provinces and district Governmental health structures received from European Union. With the support of USAID, RCST actively works in 32 pilot areas in Tajikistan where 640 trained volunteers covered 17,000 rural and urban population with information on COVID-19.

### Turkish Red Crescent Society

TRC continues to provide protective equipment support to its staff working in the field at hospitals, observation points and food banks. As of 10 June, 895,698 PPEs have been distributed to the health institutions, staff, volunteers and public. Additionally, TRC teams distributed 2,090 hygiene boxes and provided health services to 4,455 individuals. KızılayKart Program distributed 9,192 personal protective equipment and 1,159,651 info SMS about COVID-19 during the pandemic. TRC continued producing mask and visors through its staff and volunteers in the community centres. TRC cooperates with public health organizations towards distributing the products. Community Centres reached 67,691 individuals through COVID-19-related health activities. The operation in support of COVID-19 treatment continued at TRC's 18 blood centres. These centres collected the convalescent plasma with apheresis devices from patients who were diagnosed and treated in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Health. TRC received active immune plasma donation at its 16 regional blood centres. During the reporting week, 511 people donated immune plasma. Thanks to these donations, TRC produced 1,317 immune plasma components and sent 265 immune plasma components to the hospitals. Thanks to the awareness raising activities of the TRC teams in the community centres, a total of 124,537 people (including local people and migrants) were reached. Within the scope of Psychosocial Support Services carried out by staff volunteers, 8,629 people including local and migrants were reached in the reporting week. TRC continues to provide hot meals to individuals quarantined. This service covers the need for three meals per person a day. During the reporting week, teams distributed to 35,476 hot meals to 7,861 individuals by mobilizing 108 staff and volunteers. TRC awareness campaign includes the dissemination of info on COVID-19, its physical and mental impact through the display of videos on, the distribution written materials, informative posters and leaflets. These materials are available online on TRC's web page specifically for designed for COVID-19. TRC provided in-cash and in-kind assistance to 30 countries since the beginning of epidemic. TRC provided support through overseas delivery of items and local procurement by its delegations around the globe.



TRCS staff and volunteers providing support to people in need. Photo: TRC

### Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan

The National Society has been conducting an awareness-raising campaign among the population and organizations on the prevention of spread of COVID-19, including through the media (radio, television, newspapers) on safety measures and personal hygiene. National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan (NRCST) has trained staff and mobilized and trained volunteers to participate in COVID-19 preparedness and response activities. The training included information on prevention of COVID-19, self-protection, information on handwashing, social distancing. The information material provided by IFRC has been adapted, translated into Turkmen and is used in presentations, and is also included in a seminar module. NRCST is a member of the working group for the implementation of the national COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, closely coordinating with the Government Ministry of Health (MoH), UN agencies and other partners.

## Ukrainian Red Cross Society

Ukrainian Red Cross Society continues to react on situation with COVID-19 in Ukraine and provide humanitarian assistance. Since the beginning of May 2020, the newly established Ukrainian Red Cross Society Information Center has received 25,529 calls, 7,276 of them were about PSS assistance. As part of information campaign, URCS along with Ministry of Health released 30 videos related to COVID-19 information and broadcasted them via National TV channels and social network as social advertisement. (Up to 1,517 views on YouTube, 6,277,000 on Facebook, 38,000 in Instagram and 561,000 in TikTok) About 866,500 copies of printed material (posters, calendars, pocket notes, leaflets) have been distributed to the local population through the Ukrainian Red Cross Regional organizations and other government institutions. Ukrainian Red Cross Society distributed 244,785 pcs of personal protective equipment and 3,526 litres of disinfectant. 8,639 people received tea, coffee and sweets. 3,338 blankets, bed linen and towels, 2,645 Easter breads have been distributed. 2,432 kg of coffee, 30,300 litres of water and beverages were donated to health care facilities. Also, 21 core hospitals have received medical equipment in an amount of UAH 13,8 mln along with 17,331 pcs medicines. URCS donated appliances to 24 hospitals and now in the process of delivering 750 pcs more to 100 hospitals and small health care facilities all over Ukraine as a part of humanitarian campaign "Assistance to 100 hospitals". The volunteers of URCS in cooperation with Public Health Center of Ministry of Health of Ukraine conducted information sessions for medical staff of 182 core hospitals all over Ukraine. During the quarantine period, URCS arranged the delivery of 2,200 hot meals and 750 litres of beverages and 400 Easter breads to homeless people. As of 10 June, URCS distributed about 40,654 food parcels to the most vulnerable people. 5,618 portions of hot meals and 30,931 hygiene kits and 22,279 pcs of household chemicals were distributed to older people as well.



Ukrainian Red Cross supporting low-income families, the older people and people with disabilities with food kits and information prevention campaign. Photo: URCS

## Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan

To date, the NS has mobilized at headquarters and in branches 298 staff and 976 volunteers for its COVID-19 response activities, who all received training on COVID-19, and personal protective equipment provided by the National Society and its branches (the government does not provide PPE for the National Society staff and volunteers). Throughout Uzbekistan, in local communities, in marketplaces, on public transport etc., Uzbekistan Red Crescent has distributed a total of 25,951 information materials, in Uzbek and Russian languages, received from the IFRC, WHO, the Ministry of Health and ICRC. The Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan has organized 2,004 different events, information sessions, workshops and classes related to raising public awareness of COVID-19, self-protection, and the proper use of PPE, reaching a total of 70,491 people. A total of 194 publications on mass media (on local TV, radio, newspapers, on Facebook, and Instagram). The National Society has distributed 57,853 medical masks to staff and volunteers, and also to at-risk groups (mainly produced by local manufacturers), funded by the National Society and its branches, and partly by USAID. The NS has also distributed 25,658 sanitary and hygiene products to staff and volunteers, and also to at risk groups (mainly products from local manufacturers), funded by the National Society and its branches, and partly by USAID. In accordance with the agreement on cooperation between the National Society and the Ministry of Health, the above activities were carried out at the regional and district level throughout the Republic of Uzbekistan. At the same time, the branches of the National Society worked closely with local health authorities. The Head of the Public Health Department of the National Society participated in meetings, seminars and on-line meetings, organized for partner organizations by the WHO country office in Uzbekistan. National Society staff and volunteers of regional organizations and branches took part in similar events organized by regional government health departments. Additional activities funded with domestic funds and other partners: In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, the National Society has an ongoing social care programme, looking after over 3,000 households from socially vulnerable groups across the Republic. These include disabled people, poor families, families with many children, families with disabled



Volunteers and staff of Uzbekistan Red Crescent educate people on the importance of personal hygiene, distribute medical masks and information materials in crowded places. Photo: Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan

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children and vulnerable older persons. During times of COVID-19, the National Society intensified its support to these groups and provided medical, social and home visit services to 10,261 people and provided financial or food assistance to 7,500 people. The National Society funded these activities from its own domestic funds and spent over CHF 28,000 on these activities.

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## The Middle East and North Africa

### Regional Update

**MENA RO Health & Care unit** has prepared the onboarding for Health officer and WASH officer for Yemen and WASH Coordinator surge position. The team has finalized with Geneva team the glossary of health-related terminologies for COVID-19 response. The glossary capturing all terminology related to the health activities and tools, is now being translated to Arabic. In addition, the team has reviewed and updated some technical guidance and COVID19 related resources (IFRC Care in Communities guideline, Interim guidance for Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers working with older people during COVID-19 response ...) that have been shared with the National Societies on Google drive while sharing science and guidance updates and translating important guidelines, infographics, RCCE materials (video on stigmatization, key messages ...) . Moreover, the team is coordinating with PMER team on supporting NSs and the Global Health indicators development exercise and in the review of National Societies' MEAL frameworks. MHPSS network is finalizing the first draft of the action plan and they are planning to hold e-Learning sessions with Tunisia RC on mental health.

**Concerning Community based health and RCCE**, new channels for the e-learning package are being opened with North African NSs (Algerian RC, Egyptian RC and Tunisian RC). The team has been coordinating with GVA program and policy department on displaying the MENA community health intervention e-Learning package in Arabic on the IFRC learning platform. The team had also a startup meeting with the communications team on a joint regional campaign with UNICEF and WHO on continuity of care "vaccination despite COVID19". Due to importance of NS's role on Community Based Surveillance (CBS) , the health team in GVA and MENA made a first discussion with WHO EMRO team to identify needs and potential pilot projects in MENA during COVID-19 and beyond. RCCE team is preparing social media material on World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June and organizing jointly with ICRC and the Environment Working group a follow up session with NSs through the health and WASH forum on 10<sup>th</sup> June.

**WASH team** is integrating One WASH Programming planned for Iraq and Yemen into the COVID-19 Operation. The team is also working on the dissemination of Key Scaling Up WASH components and of WASH IPC Toolkit document to the Technical WASH Sub-working Group of the health forum. The team also continues to update on the MENA WASH Covid-19 activities as part of the Global WASH Advisors meeting while coordinating with Geneva team for MENA e-learning on IFRC platform.

**Information Management:** All National Societies operational plans are uploaded on GO Platform on their emergency covid-19 page on GO Platform (12 out of 12 are successfully uploaded).

Technical webinars and communications on reporting tools to support National Societies to create field reports, 3Ws and financial reports. 1-1 webinars and group sessions presentation were organized for more than 35 GO users from 10 National Societies, PNS and regional office users to disseminate the new features, videos, resources, and updates and allow users to browse, use and navigate the platform. All the necessary GO Platform user guide, admin guide, offline field reports documents, 3Ws reference documents are prepared with screenshots and translated to Arabic and shared with NSs focal points and GO users. The materials were shared with IM global team too to be uploaded on GO Resources page.

IM scoping calls with National societies are done and still ongoing to discuss potential areas of support so far calls with Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Syria and Iraq were done and follow up sessions are coming soon.

## National Society Updates

## Algerian Red Crescent (ARC)

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic (early March 2020), the Algerian RC has conducted a national campaign to raise awareness, prevent and combat the spread of the virus. Awareness campaigns on risk communication and community engagement are continuing, reaching only in the past week 78 neighborhoods, and 1367 awareness materials have been distributed. Algerian RC is also very active on social media, with a total of 3,397,462 views on Facebook, 24,308 views on Twitter, 13,481 views on Instagram and 1432 views on Youtube.

In addition, during the past week, 232 hot meals and 230 food parcels have been distributed to vulnerable families in the remote areas of the country and other people in need.

In addition, 545 public spaces have been disinfected and 8,031 masks have been produced and distributed in public places (market, post office, highway, street and construction site).

This week Algerian RC signed a partnership agreement with the Ministry of Vocational Training with the aim to establish a capacity building programme with Algerian RC volunteers.

Concerning Health, Algerian RC has provided medical equipment to Boufarik hospital (23 km from Algiers) and have purchased a mobile clinic for the launch of a large vaccination operation in the country.

## Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC)

- 3,044 appointed by the volunteer in every street campaign
- 6,795 volunteers trained to respond to the coronavirus
- ERC have conducted a total of 25 interventions in the affected areas
- 18 awareness campaigns about the risk of the emerging coronavirus in Egypt
- 3,600 beneficiaries reached through awareness campaigns
- 71 disinfection and sterilisation campaigns
- 956 relief items distributed
- 3,236 total volunteer hours
- 317 volunteers engaged in the 25 COVID interventions
- Project Funding Agreement was signed between ERC and IFRC

The Egyptian government has established hotlines in each of the governorates in order to respond to COVID-19 inquiries and 320 hospitals nationwide have been allocated to screen and isolate coronavirus patients. ERC has finalized and shared the updated Contingency and Response plan. At movement level, continued coordination between ERC, ICRC, IFRC and the Swiss and German Red Cross is ongoing to provide technical support as requested by ERC and a bi-weekly coordination meeting is organized to share updates on progress made, identifying and overcoming challenges and ensuring quality of the operation. Online coordination meetings with external partners (UNHCR, IOM and other NGOs) continue to support the needs in each governorate. In particular, IOM is still supporting Yemeni families stranded in Egypt due to the lockdown. ERC has trained 6,795 volunteers to respond to COVID-19 and 3,044 volunteers have been appointed by the volunteer on every street campaign. In terms of health and WASH activities implemented, ERC continues to intensify health and hygiene promotion messages on social media and online platforms and ERC medical volunteers continue to operate the medical hotline and WhatsApp 24/7. 3 awareness sessions on COVID-19 prevention, hygiene and healthy lifestyles were provided in 3 orphanages in the Governorates of South Sinai, Quena and Red Sea. Medical awareness messages

continue to be disseminated to the Syrian and host communities through Facebook group and other social media platforms. Medical services are exclusively provided in Alexandria at a very small scale for Syrian refugees. Follow up calls to beneficiaries with NCDs and CDs are ensured to provide health advice and information on COVID-19. ERC is also creating referral pathways for secondary healthcare for migrants who display symptoms of COVID-19.

In coordination with national authorities, ERC continues to purify and sterilize state institutions as well as banks, post offices and schools equipped to pay pensions. Up to date, 71 disinfection and sterilisation campaigns have been completed.

The PSS hotline continues to provide PSS services and field support to the teams in all governorates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and PSS messages are disseminated on online and social media platforms. ERC has also activated a MHPSS for migrants through WhatsApp groups and Zoom platform, and a MHPSS assessment for migrants (through phone calls) is ongoing to identify needs and support required.

Finally, online livelihood courses re-started on Photoshop and for ICDL (internet literacy).

## Iraqi Red Crescent (IRCS)

IRCS has established an emergency committee to implement, monitor and evaluate the COVID-19 operations included in its Response Plan and to mobilize resources.

Risk communication, community engagement, and health and hygiene promotion activities are still ongoing, while

additional 327,525 posters, flex and brochures have been designed and printed.

In order to carry out field campaigns, IRCS has recruited additional 900 staff and volunteers in HQ and Branches.

Concerning WASH, IRCS is disinfecting the building of IRCS and its hospitals and branches on a daily basis, while distributing gloves and masks to volunteers who are carrying out the disinfections and providing strict instructions and to staff and volunteers to prevent any infection in future. Moreover, IRCS teams disinfected more than 26,848 institutions, homes, stores and buildings. To ensure provision of PPEs, cleaning and disinfection materials, IRCS increased its warehouses storage. IRCS has distributed until now 33,183 Personal protection kits PPE to local institutions and 6,100 personal hygiene kit to community members.

RCCE activities to raise awareness about how to limit the spread of the virus are implemented both face to face with community members in supermarkets, institutions, roads, and different places and cities (1,276,124 people reached) and through video and messages passed on social media (Facebook Twitter, Instagram), local television, broadcast, news agencies, or spread using speakers in public spaces in Baghdad and other governorates (8,546,858 people reached).

In addition, 78,344 beneficiaries benefitted of psychological support programs.

Online training course for 900 staff and volunteers have been implemented: 117 people has been provided with medical information about COVID-19, 55 people have been trained on WASH topics during COVID-19, 75 have been trained on Psychosocial support during COVID-19, 40 people have been trained on Psychological First Aid, 65 have been trained on Volunteers management, 75 people have been trained on Rumor management during COVID-19.

The IRCS DRR department distributes 13,173 food parcels to the most vulnerable groups in the various governorates of Iraq. A camp consisting of 200 tents has been installed at the Erbil Book Fair to be used as a quarantine center.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society is supporting the Iraqi Ministry of Health by providing PCR devices (and kits) to diagnose COVID-19, a CT-SCAN device, Personal protection kits and other medical supplies.

IFRC is supporting IRCS by providing guidelines and technical advice to develop the Operational and business continuity plan, by sharing PPE specifications procuring PPEs and providing guidance, by developing Health Messages in Arabic and English and by printing Health Education and Awareness material.

Outside the Movement, IRCS is coordinating with United Nations agencies and attending on a regular basis the Health and WASH cluster. The Iraqi Red Crescent Society is part of the Civil Crisis Management Cell in the Iraqi state and is heading the afflicted relief committee.

### **Jordan Red Crescent (JRC)**

In the livelihoods sector, the operation's key activities consisted in distributions of food parcels and shopping vouchers as part of two different coordination efforts, with the Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO) on one hand, and with the Kuwaiti Red Crescent on the other. This week, distributions carried out in coordination with the SSC and the JHCO have reached 75 households with food parcels (Amman and Zarqa) and 3998 households with shopping vouchers (Zarqa). Within the JRCS-KRCS operation and specifically in the reporting period from June 1st to June 7th, 412 households were reached with food parcels distributions in the two governorates of Kerak and Tafileh. Since the beginning of the livelihoods operation in mid-March 2020 until June 7th, the JRCS has reached cumulatively a total of 7575 households with food parcels distributions, 18359 households with shopping vouchers and 3143 diabetes patients, helping around 132813 vulnerable individuals across the country.



### **Morocco Red Crescent (MRC)**

The month of June has been characterized primarily by capacity building activities: volunteers have been trained on basic knowledge of epidemiology and psychological first aid (in 12 branches, reaching 48 participants), communication and video editing. Awareness-raising activities in the southern provinces are carried out by Moroccan RC volunteers. MRC has prepared a tender to procure PPEs for volunteers.

Coordination is ongoing with many stakeholders, including the Ministry of Migration to assist migrants affected by COVID-19 effects.

### **Palestine Red Crescent (PRCS)**

The State of Emergency across the occupied Palestinian territories, originally declared on 5 March, has effectively ended. Banks, mosques, churches, gyms, government and private sector institutions, shops, and public transportation networks reopened. Generally, there has been a reduction in COVID-19 cases in the oPT: during the last week of May, only 22 suspected cases were transferred by the EMS teams in the WB, while 475 people benefitted from medical services in the PHC centers in the oPT and 161 people benefitted from the mobile clinic services in the Jordan valley communities in the

West Bank. During the same reporting period, 620 PSS phone sessions and 2811 home first aid services and 517 home visits to elderly and chronic disease patients have been conducted in the oPT, while 4400 food parcels have been distributed.

Concerning Risk Communication and Community Engagement, audio visual material and mass SMS have been disseminated to thousands of Palestinians: only during this reporting period, 11,657 people have benefited from awareness raising activities.

### **Yemen Red Crescent (YRCS)**

The total number of COVID-19 cases in Yemen's government-controlled provinces increased to 419 on Wednesday, as 20 new cases were confirmed. The Yemeni Health Ministry said in a brief statement that during the past 24 hours, 20 cases of COVID-19 were detected in a number of provinces under the control of the internationally-recognized government. The ministry said that the number of recoveries in the government-controlled areas increased to 17 since the outbreak of the novel coronavirus on April 10. Also, the government announced that the death toll from the deadly respiratory disease climbed to 95 in different areas under its control, including the southern port city of Aden.

### **Summary**

1. Providing PPE for volunteers in 12 branches: Hajjah, Amran, Dhamar, Saada, Taiz, Rima, Shabwa, Hodeidah, Ibb, Al Mahwit, Amanat Al Asimah, Sanaa Governorate. 2. Support Offices of Public Health and Population With NFIs and Hygiene Kits. 3. Awareness campaigns: The Red Crescent launched awareness campaigns to prevent the corona virus in three governorates (Hadramaut, Shabwa, and Al-Mahra), where awareness raising was carried out through ambulances and awareness posters were distributed in public places and streets. 4. Add 16 quarantine centers in the governorates: The number of quarantine places in Sanaa Governorate is 10 centers The number of quarantine places in the capital's secretariat is 1 center The number of quarantine places in Al Mahrah is 1 center The number of isolation places in Shabwa 1 center

### **Hygiene and sterilization campaigns / toilets maintenance:**

- Participation in the spray and disinfecting campaign for the facilities of the local authority, the judicial complex and the police station in Hadramout Governorate.
- Participation in the spray and disinfecting campaign for the facilities of the local authority in Ibb.
- Disinfecting the fifth floor of the isolation center for 16 room with the hallway and toilets in Sana'a capital.
- Cleaning and disinfecting campaign in Sayoun airport halls and number of aircrafts.
- Cleaning and disinfecting campaign for the quarantine center in Sana'a capital with rehabilitation work for the toilet and sewage system.

### **Awareness campaign:**

- 1- Preparing teams for health awareness to introduce COVID-19 epidemic and its prevention mechanism in Hajjah Governorate.
- 2- Forming a joint operations room in Hajjah governorate at the governorate level with membership of the Yemeni Red Crescent branch in the governorate.
- 3- The Red Crescent launched awareness campaigns to prevent corona virus in three governorates, where awareness raising was carried out through ambulances and awareness posters were distributed in public places and streets.

## FUNDING UPDATE

[Donor response to the Appeal MDRCOVID19](#)

## ALLOCATIONS

### IFRC COVID-19 Emergency Appeal Allocations by country

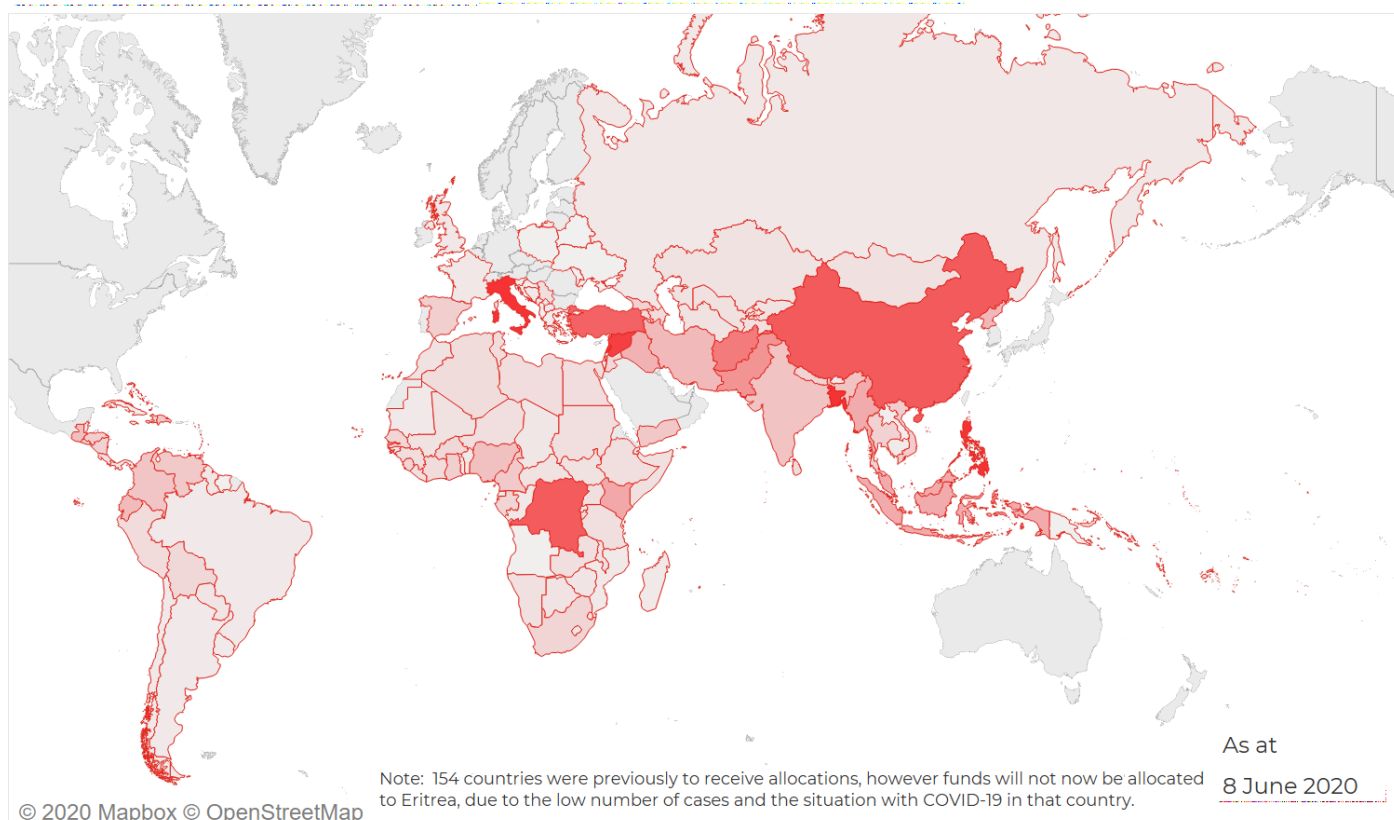
National Societies  
in receipt of Allocations

**153**

Total amount allocated  
(CHF)

**100,213,147**

Allocation (CHF)



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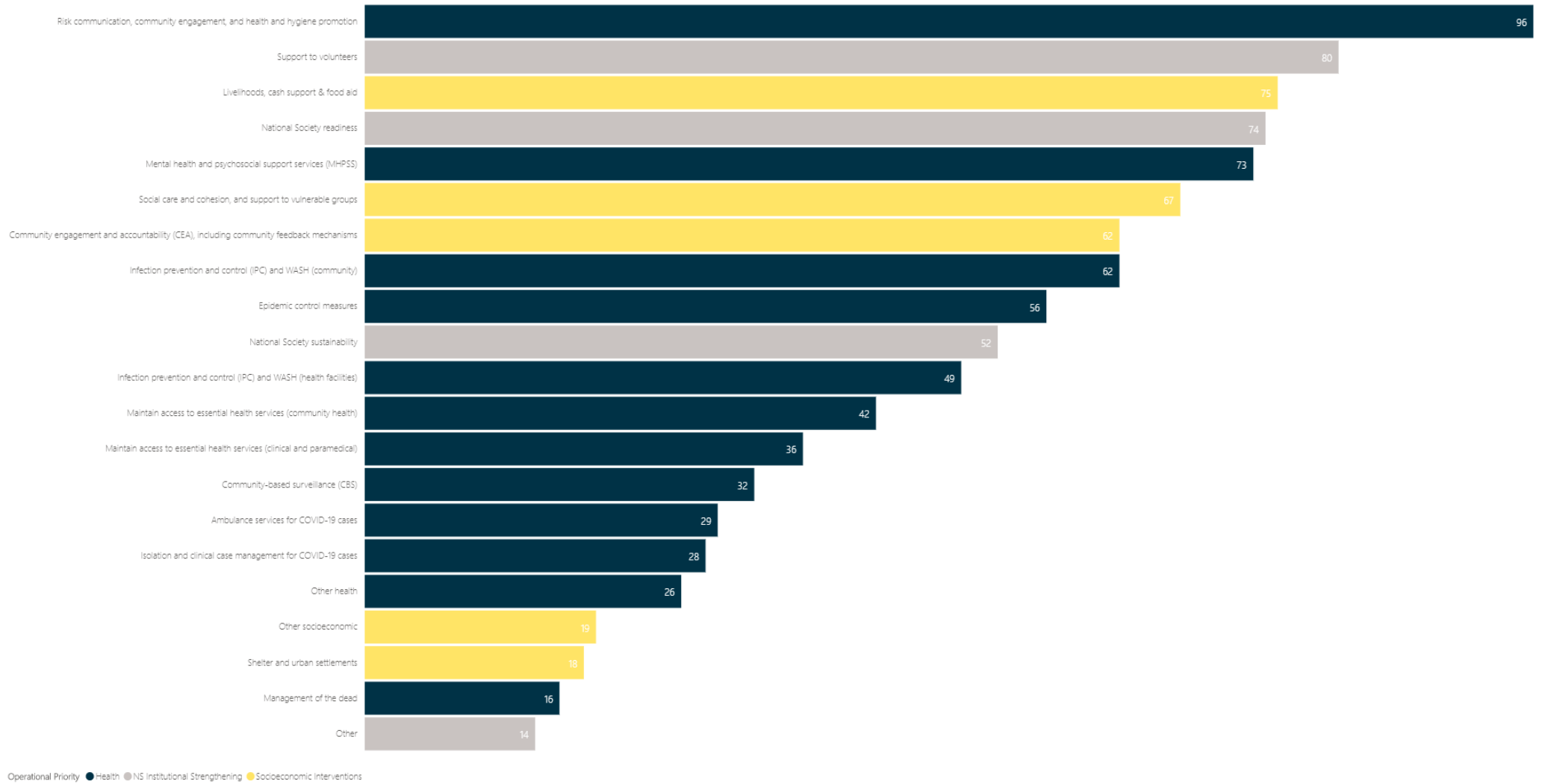
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**The Operations Update covers new information from the last reporting period. Please see previous updates for more information on how National Societies and IFRC have been responding to COVID-19 since the start of the Emergency Appeal.**

<b>Operational Update Link</b>	<b>Published</b>
<a href="#">Three months Update</a>	29 May 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 14</a>	8 May 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 13</a>	1 May 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 12</a>	24 April 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 11</a>	17 April 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 10</a>	10 April 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 9</a>	3 April 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 8</a>	27 March 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 7</a>	20 March 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 6</a>	13 March 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 5</a>	06 March 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 4</a>	28 February 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 3</a>	21 February 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 2</a>	14 February 2020
<a href="#">Operational Update 1</a>	07 February 2020

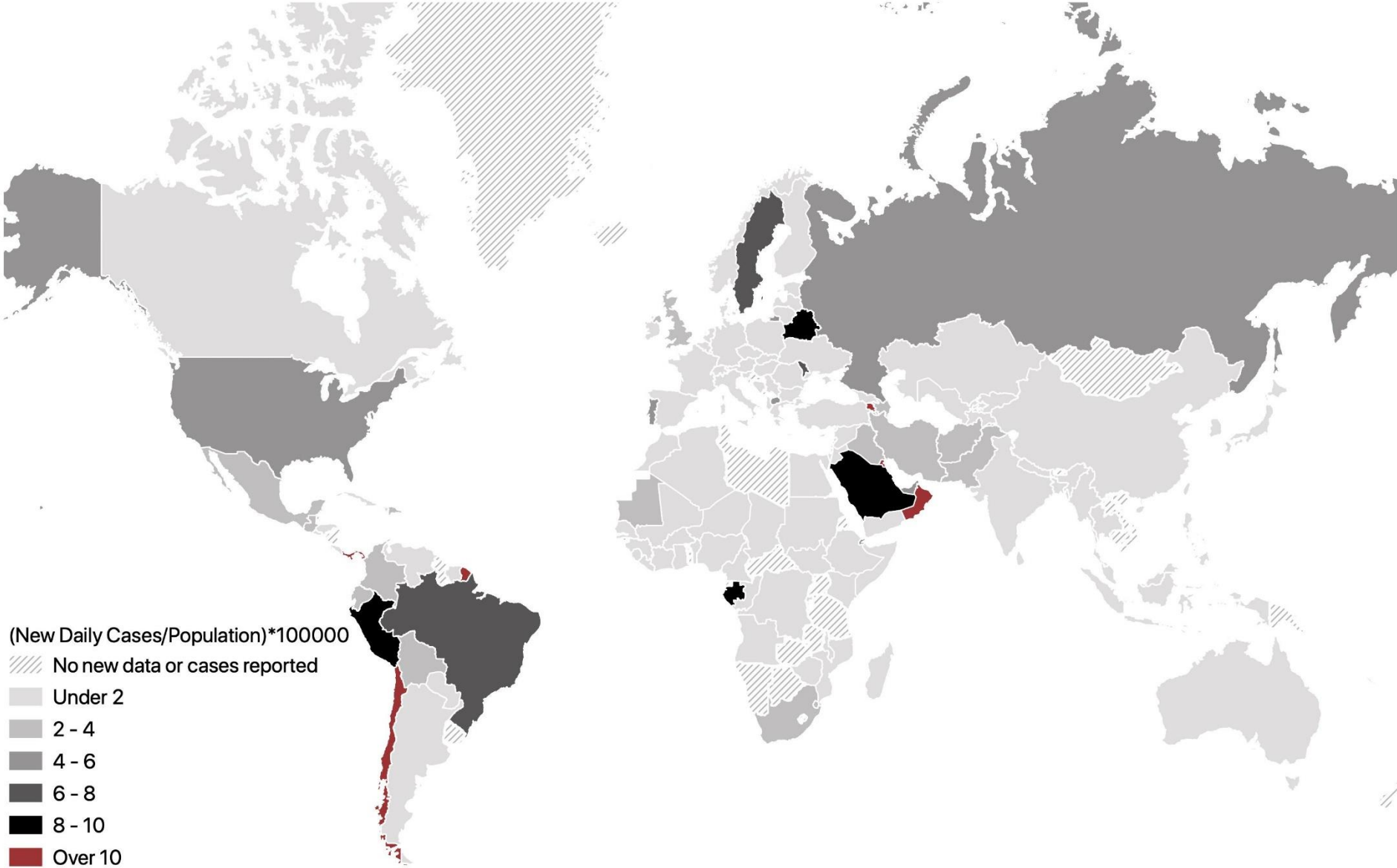
# NATIONAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

As reported via public COVID-19 Field Reports on go.ifrc.org



# COVID-19 Global View

Produced 10 June 2020



This map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Produced by SIMS (2020).