This document details the IFRC’s support in areas agreed upon with the relevant National Society. The IFRC seeks resources to carry out this country/cluster plan listed here as funding requirements.
Papua New Guinea's geographic diversity includes well-known beaches and coral reefs, but the country has suffered from increasingly devastating climate conditions and it is vulnerable to floods, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and cyclones. Despite its considerable natural resources, much of the population remains vulnerable to water insecurity, a lack of sanitation and poor hygiene.

Child mortality is a major concern, and maternal mortality is currently four times the rate of other Pacific islands. Gender equality is crucial to tackling high rates of sexual and domestic violence, with an estimated 69 per cent of women experiencing assault during their lifetime.

Papua New Guinea experiences more disease and a lower GDP average than neighbouring countries. Although the Government Vision and Development Strategic Plan includes the objective to become a middle-income country by 2030, 40 per cent of the country’s residents are considered poor. Measles and polio outbreaks have been rising in recent years, but COVID-19 has been the predominant health concern since 2020. The country has been fortunate to experience only mild symptoms in 95 per cent of cases and only seven deaths as of October 2020. However, the health system is still fragile, and any increase in more severe cases would add pressure.

It is the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that will have long-lasting financial impacts.

Violence from civil unrest and tribal fighting, migration and internal displacement are significant issues of concern. Many vulnerable people find themselves seeking asylum and needing support to access essential services.
The PNG Red Cross main areas of work include disaster preparedness and response, health, first aid, volunteer management and is investing significant resources in National Society Development. It is expanding its outreach from 13 provincial branches to 22 in a highly challenging geographical environment.

The Australian Red Cross has been closely involved in several development projects over the years and supports emergency response efforts. It is also contributing financial support to maintain essential staff positions.
Papua New Guinea is one of the largest and most populated countries in the Pacific, suffering from climate change and environmental degradation. Drought, unpredicted heavy rains, flooding, coastal erosion, and a rise in sea level are the major climate change issues affecting Papua New Guinea. The country requires long-term investment in adaptation and mitigation measures.

Papua New Guinea is highly exposed to climate and environmental crises that have a broader humanitarian impact. The IFRC will work with the National Society to build its capacity to reduce the loss of life, livelihoods, and wellbeing in environmental crises and climate change risks through a community-based approach.

The National Society plans to work with affected coastal communities to raise awareness of risks by conducting a vulnerability assessment. It is exploring the sustainable fisheries ecosystem and investment in food security mechanisms at a national level as a long-term solution to some of these vulnerabilities.

By integrating climate risk and resilience into infrastructure development at national and provincial levels, the IFRC will support the National Society to alleviate and reduce risks. The goal is to strengthen resilience for an effective and efficient response to climate-induced phenomena by closely involving communities and volunteers. The National Society will train volunteers in climate and environmental crises response and preparedness and provide them with emergency response safety equipment. It will also train local communities and provide them with other sustainable livelihood support.

The IFRC will support the National Society to define the role and strategy for local response to disasters and crises through its auxiliary role with the Government.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The National Society will organise capacity enhancement activities in climate-smart programming.
- The National Society will establish communication with the Department of Environment and Conservation to partner on climate change.
- The National Society will train staff and volunteers on climate effect mitigation measures in preparedness and response.
- The National Society will ensure climate and environmental crises are included in all Disaster Relief Emergency Funding and Emergency Appeals for response and recovery operations.
- The National Society will organise capacity enhancement activities to integrate climate impacts and identify suitable early actions, including forecast-based financing.
- The IFRC and the National Society will promote more sustainable environmental practices.
Papua New Guinea is continuously exposed to earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, landslides, droughts, polio, and measles epidemics. The rising sea level is another constant threat to small island communities.

The IFRC is supporting the National Society with its core mandate to ensure that communities are better prepared to respond to emergencies and disasters. Its plans include disaster risk reduction, public health, water, sanitation and hygiene and first aid as priority areas in building resilient communities. The Government recognises the National Society as one of its partners in its National Disaster Risk Management Plan and recognises that the National Society is instrumental in providing humanitarian assistance to communities affected by disasters and contributes to disaster risk reduction by building community resilience.

The National Society will systematically strengthen its organisational and response capacities to fulfil their humanitarian mandates at the local and national levels. Evolving disaster and crises support will increase leadership to support women, people with disabilities and young people, incorporating the resilience considerations.

**TARGET 1**
Communities can take action to increase their resilience to evolving shocks and hazards.

**TARGET 2**
People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through timely, adequate, and flexible access to support.

**Activities**
- The IFRC will support the National Society to respond effectively to the broad spectrum of evolving crises and disasters.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to document local early warning systems through radio messaging and in public places.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to establish early warning systems which are linked with meteorological systems.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to prepare Community Contingency Plans for preparedness and response in 12 communities.
GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
210,000

People to be reached
60,000

Papua New Guinea’s health system is highly fragile and susceptible to capacity, resources, and outreach pressures. The country has experienced polio and measles epidemics for some time, despite readily available vaccines. Immunisation uptake is low in rural and small island communities, where communication and education about health and vaccination are limited.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a minor effect on the health system. There have been few cases of which 95 per cent have caused only mild symptoms. However, options for social distancing and observing hygienic environments will remain an issue while poverty, overcrowded settlements and informal businesses are common. This has raised the need for Epidemic Control for Volunteers training to raise awareness of taking preventive measures.

The National Society will play an active role in routine immunisation campaigns and the distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine in 2021.

**TARGET 1**
The National Society will reach 300 people with water, sanitation and hygiene services.

**TARGET 2**
The National Society will train 600 people in first aid.

**TARGET 3**
The National Society will reach 48,000 people with immunisation services.

**ACTIVITIES**
- The National Society will establish referral pathways for the facilitation of small island communities.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to participate in all national immunisation campaigns.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to conduct essential training for volunteers on communicable diseases.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a community water, sanitation and hygiene action plan under Emergency water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities.
Displacements are common in the highland provinces of Papua New Guinea due to continuous tribal fighting. Economic migration to cities is also increasing, creating pressure on the already struggling infrastructure. This has resulted in an increase in domestic violence and a rise in crime.

The National Society will facilitate safe, humane and dignified treatment for all people who migrate and are displaced. This will include expanding the support along major migratory routes and cycles to ensure that their humanitarian needs are addressed through essential services and protection irrespective of their legal status, in both emergency and non-emergency contexts.

**TARGET 1**
Reach 2,500 people based on prioritised needs.

**ACTIVITIES**
- The IFRC will support the National Society to train staff and volunteers on the assistance and protection issues of displaced persons and migrants.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to conduct a needs assessment in close coordination with the ICRC.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to manage assistance and protection issues at national and provincial levels.
VALUES, POWER, AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
100,000

People to be reached
10,000

In a highly diversified society of more than 800 tribes with unique cultures and speaking a larger number of languages than anywhere else in the world, the National Society’s work and programmes must be based on integrity, transparency, inclusiveness, and accountability. Value, power and inclusiveness will be essential pillars of its work in 2021, beginning with a diversified base of volunteers and staff committed to humanitarian values, sharing power, and working as an all-inclusive team.

The IFRC will support the National Society to mainstream gender and diversity support to branches and volunteers. It will continue to engage in the Pacific Red Cross Societies’ Gender and Diversity Network and improve education service and outreach programmes to children with special needs. It will also continue work in gender and diversity, sexual and gender-based violence and child protection as an institutional priority.

The IFRC will provide technical resources and support for gender and diversity knowledge and skills to broaden understanding of diversity and enable staff and volunteers to work independently and ensure gender and diversity are mainstreamed in the National Society’s projects and services.

**TARGET 1**

600 children affected by disaster, crisis or displacement will be supported to achieve more equal access to education.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The National Society and the IFRC will adopt a comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion approach across operations and programmes. The IFRC will support the National Society to provide support and assistance to displaced children in getting access to schools.
- The National Society and the IFRC will prepare Standard Operating Procedures for inclusion in all programmes and operations.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to ensure community engagement for awareness-raising on dignity, access, inclusiveness and required safety and that all programmes are inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities.
- The National Society and the IFRC promote and support the systematic application of agreed minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies.
ENABLER 1
ENGAGED WITH RENEWED INFLUENCE, INNOVATIVE AND DIGITALLY TRANSFORMED WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

The National Society and the IFRC have strengthened their engagement with partners within and outside the network to work collectively on the key challenges facing communities.

The IFRC will collaborate with the National Society to build substantial public profiles and be effective advocates, influencing both public behaviour and policy change at the domestic, regional and global levels. They will inform prominent representatives of humanitarian and development agencies and relevant ministries about their role and activities.

The IFRC is also prioritising digital transformation in 2021. The National Society and the IFRC aim to have the foundational IT digital systems to efficiently run and ensure accountability in their daily operations and to be data ready for engagement with their staff and volunteers, operational decision-making and business intelligence.

ACTIVITIES
• The IFRC will support the National Society to consult, develop and implement the Communication and Advocacy Strategy, Fundraising Policy, First Aid Policy and Plan and Corporate Partnership Strategy.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to develop an advocacy plan for wider reach.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to strengthen its relationship auxiliary role with Government Departments and its positioning and voice in humanitarian and development fora.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to communicate and advocate to increase its impact and public trust.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to become data ready.

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
90,000
ENABLER 2
ACCOUNTABLE WITH AN AGILE MANAGEMENT AND A RENEWED FINANCING MODEL WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

The IFRC will provide support to the National Society to ensure transparency and quality service delivery and to enable it to follow policies, and guidelines. Support for compliance will help to effectively and efficiently manage funding and improve the National Society’s work and image. The major areas of focus will include risk management, training on fraud and corruption measures, gender parity and diversity and adherence to the code of conduct on humanitarian relief standards. The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a financial development model that can lead to long-term financial sustainability.

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
350,000

TARGET 1
The National Society will provide the required information within 96 hours after a disaster to mobilise the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund.

TARGET 2
The National Society will sign a partnership agreement with at least three private sector donors.

ACTIVITIES
• The IFRC will support the National Society to prepare a resource mobilization strategy and recruit a resource mobilization coordinator.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to engage with public authorities and the corporate sector for regular funding support.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to train ten staff members on the mitigation of fraud and corruption, financial development and resource mobilization measures.
• The IFRC will support the National Society to evaluate possibilities of the medium to long term funding for investment for sustainability and improvement in capacity and response.
The IFRC will support the National Society in Papua New Guinea to regain its trust with public authorities, movement partners, the corporate sector and other humanitarian stakeholders in the country. National Society Development will be a major area of focus that will help the National Society improve its foundational aspects, strengthen its auxiliary role and improve its system, procedures and structures. It will also improve volunteer management, gender parity and the ethnic representation within the National Society.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop protection against sexual exploitation and abuse policy.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to implement a child protection policy, including child protection training.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a volunteer management system and include a diverse representation of communities among its volunteers.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to include budgeting, audits, acquittals and various compliance measures in its Financial Development Plan.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to include community engagement and awareness through Red Ready Project in 3 provinces.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to manage an awareness campaign on gender-based violence, child safeguarding, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and non-discrimination.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to create subject specialist volunteers.
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a volunteer management system.
The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world’s largest humanitarian network, with 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 14 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

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