

IN SUPPORT OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RED CROSS SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



64

Disasters
and crises



5,603

Health and
wellbeing



1,428

Migration and
displacement



100

Values, power
and inclusion



73

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

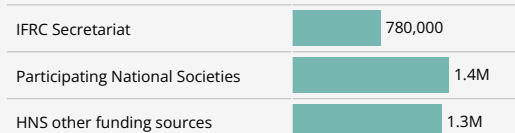
Country	Funding Requirement	2.5M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	
	Funding Requirement	154,000
	Funding	117,000
	Expenditure	117,000
	Longer-term	
	Funding Requirement	2.2M
	Funding	1.1M
	Expenditure	589,000
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	100,000
	Funding	149,000
	Expenditure	149,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding	1.3M

Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society

Overview



Funding Sources



Appeal number **MAAPG003**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?	Yes
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	35
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	64
Disasters and crises	Community feedback reports produced	737
	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	3,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	6,000
	People reached with shelter support	5,000
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	543
	People reached with immunization services	14
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	18
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	1,000
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	100
Values, power and inclusion	Is Community Engagement and Accountability integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)?	Yes
	People reached by RCRC educational programmes	73
	People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming	67

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	2
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	Yes
	National Society is showing progress in digital transformation according to the digital maturity model outlined in IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Bilateral Support							Support Through IFRC
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	
Australian Red Cross	442,000							
Netherlands Red Cross								✓

Total Funding Reported **CHF 442,000**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Papua New Guinea has a [population](#) of approximately nine million, with more than 800 languages spoken among more than 1,000 ethnic clans. Agriculture, fishing, forestry, artisanal, and small-scale mining are primary livelihood activities in rural areas, while the minerals and energy extraction sector account for most export earnings and GDP.

The country's economy contracted by two per cent in 2021 because of the COVID-19 impact. A modest rebound in the economy is expected of 2.7 per cent in 2023, despite chronic political instability in Papua New Guinea, which has experienced social unrest in the aftermath of the July 2022 elections.

During the reporting period, [Papua New Guinea](#) was exposed to small to large natural, health and human-induced hazards ranging from [floods](#) in Central Province, to a [volcanic eruption](#) in Bougainville, earthquakes in East Sepik and ethnic and [tribal fighting](#) in Highlands and Port Moresby. COVID-19 has further worsened poverty and inequality, and pressure from surging inflation risks breeding further discontent and the next challenge is that Papua New Guinea is anticipating a drought due to [El Nino](#). [High temperatures](#) and the resulting heat stress and humidity have a negative impact on agriculture, which [85 per cent](#) of Papua New Guinea's population rely on.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society created a drought response plan and used project reports to guide improvements. The National Society led a coral reef restoration event, while another staff member received climate training in Fiji. Volunteers cleaned the headquarters and recycling stations were set up to promote environmental practices.

Disasters and crises

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society trained staff in emergency vulnerability assessments and gathered community feedback on COVID-19 and vaccines. Throughout the year, the National Society responded to several emergencies, assisting thousands of people and distributing relief items. The responses included aid for fire victims in Port Moresby, earthquake survivors in East Sepik and flood-affected families in Gabagaba.

Health and wellbeing

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society trained several individuals under its [first aid](#) programme in both community-based and commercial first aid. These trainings provide crucial skills and also serve as a revenue source for the National Society. Under the [Red Ready](#) initiative, the National Society branches conducted refresher trainings and community awareness campaigns in schools. The National Society branches of Milne Bay, East New Britain and Madang engaged in health and hygiene education for students and teachers in the region. The National Society also ran a building trust project to combat COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy by collecting community feedback and conducting meetings to improve strategies and collaboration with other partners.

Migration and displacement

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society responded to several humanitarian crises, including election-related violence in the Highlands Region. It distributed essential items to those affected and displaced by the unrest. The National Society also provided relief to families displaced by floods and an earthquake, focusing on distributing household items, temporary shelter materials and hygiene kits.

Values, power and inclusion

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society actively integrated [PGI](#) principles into its programmes and projects. The National Society partnered with the Ministry of Education to run a special education

school in Hohola, Port Moresby which serves children with a curriculum that includes academic, therapy and vocational training, supported by a team of professionals. Additionally, the Disaster Management Coordinator, who also serves as the PGI focal person, attended a workshop in Suva on Pacific regional [anticipatory action](#) focusing on planning for PGI activities for the coming year.

Enabling Local Actors

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society focused on improving its capacity through strategic updates and restructuring under the new Strategic Plan 2030. Key policies and documents were reviewed and approved to enhance governance, coordination, and operations across the country. The [Red Ready](#) project phase II was vital in assessing branch capabilities to identify areas needing support. In 2023, significant capacity-building initiatives, including [community engagement and accountability](#) (CEA) training and [eVCA](#) sessions conducted across several branches.

Changes and amendments

The restructuring of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society and its ongoing capacity building efforts have been crucial during this period, especially with many new and junior staff. These changes impacted the National Society's ability to carry out planned activities.

For the Chronic Crises project, only staff capacity building and [eVCA](#) trainings were completed in 2023. Other planned activities, such as community initiatives and the endline survey, have been pushed to 2024.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Climate and environment

Progress by National Society against objectives

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises.

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society created a plan for drought response as part of the Chronic Crises project, showing their proactive approach to disaster planning. Although there was no formal documentation of lessons learned, individual project reports provided useful insights for future improvements.

The National Society organized a coral reef restoration event on World Environmental Day with UNDP and other NGOs, involving volunteers. Additionally, a new staff member specializing in climate and environment underwent training on [eVCA](#) and [nature-based solutions](#) in Fiji, strengthening the National Society's capacity in climate-related project skills. The Disaster Management Coordinator attended workshops on anticipatory action and PGI in Fiji to strengthen the National Society's [preparedness for effective response](#). Additionally, volunteers took part in an environmental cleanup at the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society headquarters promoting awareness about environmental practices.

The National Society conducted a World Environment Day awareness session and installed recycling stations and rubbish bins within its office as a follow up initiative. This was aimed at supporting environment-friendly practices and encouraging recycling habits among staff.

IFRC Network joint support

The IFRC supported the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society in conducting an awareness session on the World Environment Day.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO [Papua New Guinea](#).

Communities affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate and flexible and strengthens their agency

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, volunteers and community members from Milne Bay and Madang participated in assessments related to integrated vulnerability capacity assessment exercises. The community members also engaged in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and COVID-19 community assessments. These assessments helped create Disaster Risk Reduction plans across National Society to improve local preparedness. In late 2023, the National Society trained staff in emergency vulnerability and capacity assessment. It also gathered community feedback on COVID-19 and vaccines through the community engagement and accountability project and conducted a volunteer survey.

The National Society stocked its warehouse with essential non-food items like blankets and buckets. It responded to six emergencies throughout the year, providing relief to those affected by the Yumi Yet fire, the East Sepik Earthquake, and flooding in Gabagaba. These responses included distributing hygiene and household kits to families in need.

Under its [community engagement and accountability](#) project, the National Society collected community feedback responses on COVID-19 and vaccines, alongside a volunteer survey. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society procured non-food items for its headquarters warehouse, including blankets, jerrycans, buckets, solar mini lanterns, vests and bibs. The project's baseline assessment report was published on the community engagement hub. Throughout the reporting period, the National Society responded to six emergencies, reaching 5,603 people and distributing over 9,000 relief items. Specific responses included aiding victims of the Yumi Yet fire in Port Moresby and the East Sepik Earthquake, which caused significant damage to households across multiple districts. Additionally, the National Society provided assistance to the Gabagaba district in central province after heavy rain induced flooding, including distribution of hygiene and household kits to the affected families.



National Society volunteers distributing non-food items including blankets, tarpaulins and mosquito nets to communities affected by election related violence in Mount Hagen, Western Highlands Provinces. Date taken: 23rd May 2023 Copyright owner: Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society in conducting trainings and engaging in community feedback sessions.

The **Australian Red Cross** provided technical assistance to the National Society for the Pacific emergency response training. The training was co-facilitated by the Fiji Red Cross.



Health and wellbeing

National Societies capitalize on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country level public health strategy, advocacy and policy platforms and mechanisms

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society focused on strengthening first aid capabilities across its branches. The National Society conducted first aid training, including commercial and community first aid, as well as CPR revalidation. The certification of new community-based first aid trainers from various branches supported the training efforts, improving local response capabilities.

Under the Red Ready project, the National Society conducted training of officers. The project facilitated ongoing first aid training activities in branches like East New Britain and Madang, where community first aid facilitation continues to be a core focus. It also drafted the first aid business development strategy aiming to sustain the first aid programme as a cornerstone of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society's operations.

Additionally, the WASH in school programme initiative provided important education on water, sanitation, and hygiene to schoolchildren and teachers. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society engaged with WHO and UNICEF to strengthen public health responses during emergencies, particularly in promoting immunization activities including COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in conducting training of technical officers in four branches under the Red Ready project.

The **Australian Red Cross** extended support to the National Society in drafting the first aid business development strategy.



Migration and displacement

Migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well access to durable solutions when appropriate

Progress by National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society responded to several humanitarian crises across the country, including civil unrest due to election-related violence in the Highlands region. It distributed non-food items to assist the affected and displaced individuals. Additionally, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society provided crucial relief efforts to families internally displaced by floods and earthquake. These efforts included distributing essential household items such as kitchenware, blankets, buckets, tarpaulins for temporary shelters, jerry cans for safe water storage and hygiene kits designed for women and young girls.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided funding support to the National Society for non- food items during the civil unrest in the Highlands region.



Values, power and inclusion

National Societies contribute to a positive change in communities through a wider understanding, ownership and concrete application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles, focusing especially on young people's knowledge, skills and behaviour

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society partnered with the Ministry of Education to operate a special education school in Hohola, Port Moresby. The school serves students with a curriculum that includes academic studies, therapy and vocational training and is supported by professional teachers and aides.

Additionally, the National Society's disaster management coordinator, also serving as the PGI focal person, attended a Pacific regional anticipatory action write-up workshop in Suva. This workshop was aimed at planning integrated activities related to PGI for the upcoming year.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to provide the needed technical and financial support to the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need, incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The in-country participating National Societies includes the **Australian Red Cross** and the **Netherlands Red Cross**.

The **Australian Red Cross** supported the National Society's business development, resource mobilization and disaster management activities. It also provided logistical and financial support for official meetings.

Movement coordination

The National Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly-adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

In Papua New Guinea, **the ICRC** continues to promote international humanitarian law and raises other humanitarian issues with the Papua New Guinea government, security forces, academic circles, the media and civil society. It helps communities affected by conflict and visits detainees. The ICRC also provides assistance to the National Society on various organizational priorities. This work extends to increasing acceptance, security, and access to affected populations through the application of the Safer Access Framework.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society coordinated closely with public authorities for disaster management and health. It worked with government-led relevant platforms and mechanisms. This included line agencies of the Ministry of Home Affairs, such as the National Emergency Operating Centre and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority. The National Society coordinated with government agencies at provincial and local levels, including local governments, district disaster management committees and national clusters. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society created a business development plan to increase internal revenue and support its operations. A key part of this plan is the commercial first aid programme, which aims to boost income. The National Society has partnered with PNG Air for transportation and operational support and has introduced a donation box scheme in major supermarkets and malls in Port Moresby.

In August 2023, the National Society organised the first fundraising dinner for disaster response, attracting support from various sectors including corporate entities, UN agencies, and partners in the Red Cross Red Crescent movement.

The General Assembly of the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society met from July 24 to 29, 2023, in Port Moresby. The meeting covered topics such as Red Cross roles, volunteer procedures and disaster response.

The National Society is actively involved in monthly meetings of the PNG Disaster Management Team and the Highlands Humanitarian Hub, focusing on emergency response and coordination. Additionally, the Secretary-General and Youth Representative attended the Asia Pacific Regional Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, in November 2023.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During this reporting period, the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society developed and approved important documents which were ratified at the General Assembly in July 2023. It included the auxiliary role guidance, volunteer development strategy, National Strategic Plan 2030, and business development plan

The National Society has made significant progress on the PNG Red Cross Law, with a draft under review by legal experts. The National Society actively worked on resource mobilization activities. The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society Resource Mobilization Strategic Plan (2022-2030) focuses on improving coordination, advocacy, fundraising, and volunteerism.

The National Society conducted a capacity risk register and analysis (CRRRA) training in late December 2023. The CRRRA approach has been initiated through the National Society development project. This training introduced a new approach to managing risks for future projects.

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society has established a finance committee to improve financial accountability. It also continues to focus on training and orientation regarding Red Cross Fundamental Principles during community activities and with volunteers.

Under the Red Ready project, all target branches—Milne Bay, Madang, and East New Britain—participated in the Branch Organisational Capacity Assessments (BOCA). These assessments identify gaps and opportunities for improving branch operations and programmes. The General Assembly approved new volunteer policies and a procedures manual.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the National Society in conducting capacity risk register and analysis training.

It also engaged in consultations with the **Australian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Finnish Red Cross** to explore future support and additional funding for the Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society's programmes.

The **Australian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society's resource mobilization activities through the National Society development project.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society conducted extensive media outreach through TV, radio, and newspapers to promote the Red Cross movement's principles, role, and current activities on World Environment Day. The National Society also held high-level meetings with key stakeholders, including various embassies and international organizations. These discussions focused on emergency and disaster response, improving networking and coordination, and advocating for the National Society's work. It also participated in the Papua New Guinea Disaster Management Team and Highland Humanitarian Hub meetings, which were vital for coordinating responses to civil unrest, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and preparing for potential droughts.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with introductory meetings involving key stakeholders in the country.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the National Society focused on policy development with all core policies and manuals endorsed by the council at the General Assembly. These policies have been actively shared and disseminated among staff to ensure comprehensive awareness and adherence as part of their code of conduct. Additionally, the Red Ready project is underway, focusing on enhancing readiness and response capabilities.

The National Society staff were encouraged to complete mandatory online trainings through the IFRC learning platform and orientation sessions have been conducted to update new recruits on key issues like security, climate, and public health. The National Society implemented protection, gender and inclusion through its programmes and ensured balanced gender representation among staff and volunteers.

An external audit is underway and a new approach to Capacity Register and Risk Analysis training has been introduced, with monthly finance meetings held to monitor progress. Additionally, a concept note for Capacity Building Fund has been developed to strengthen the IT environment, including the procurement of servers and UPSs for better operational and cybersecurity support.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the National Society with financial oversight, upgrading the IT environment and preparing for the emergency preparedness and response system implementation.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 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.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Papua New Guinea 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC network country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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