

The aim of National Society development



Working to achieve and maintain an organization that consistently delivers, through volunteers and staff, relevant countrywide services to vulnerable people sustained for as long as needed, and that contributes to the strength of IFRC and the Movement.”

1. Recognising the diversity of National Societies (NS)

What is a NS?

- It is set in a different institutional environment
- It is a complex system, interrelated and changing over time
- One size does not fit all



2. Each NS has to define its own formula and drive its own development



3. The primary responsibility for the health of the organization sits with the Senior Leadership

Many identify the concept of Leadership as the top officers of the National Society. However formal and informal Leadership can be found everywhere in the organisation.



4. Services to vulnerable people must be the key driver

There are different triggers for a National Society to start its development processes, but the outcomes are always focusing on improving:

RELEVANCE

Relevance of the services, focusing on the most vulnerable

REACH

Reach the number of people that benefit from our services

QUALITY

Quality and cost-effectiveness of the services we provided

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability of NS core services, ensuring that key NS services are available in the future



5. Support for NS should be based on the priorities defined by the NS themselves



National Society Development Compact

The NSD Compact further builds on the NSD framework and puts specific focus on “NSD support” defined as:

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Any support provided by an external actor to a National Society, based on the request and priorities of that National Society, that purposefully contributes to helping that National Society to achieve and maintain a sustainable organization able to deliver relevant, quality, and accessible services in full respect of the fundamental principles.”

The NSD Compact makes Four Commitments, and sets out roles for National Societies, their partners and the IFRC secretariat on how NSD support should be delivered.

COMMITMENT 1

Better identification of NS priorities in NSD



NSD support follows a pattern that focuses on the needs and strategic priorities identified by a National Society.

COMMITMENT 3

Aligned effective NSD support



All such support must also be of the right quality, aligned and avoiding duplications.

COMMITMENT 2

Competences that match the needs



To be effective, all collaboration through these partnerships must be based on clearly identified needs on the demand side, a clearer offer of skills and competencies of the appropriate quality on the offer side, and a proper matching of the two.

While the needs should be determined by each NSs, globally 3 priority areas are set to highlight the collective concern and areas that need specific attention when taking part in NSD support. These areas are:

Volunteering

Integrity, Transparency and Accountability

Financial Sustainability

COMMITMENT 4

Learning and quality assurance



Finally, there is a need to capture the learning, share it, and reflect the learning to improve quality of the NSD support, in order to contribute to a stronger IFRC and Movement.

Whenever NSD support is planned, each actor is expected to reflect these commitments and the specific roles outlined in this NSD Compact.