

# 2021



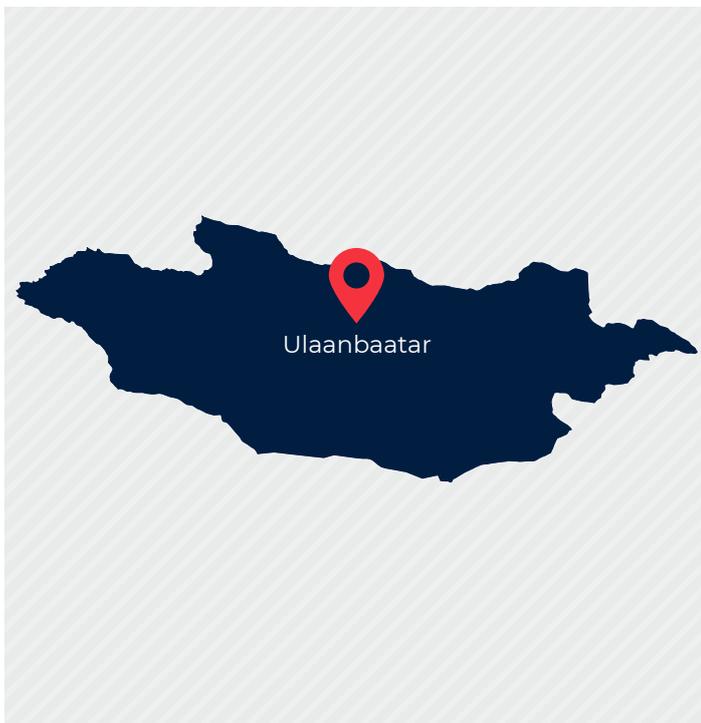
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# MONGOLIA

## IFRC COUNTRY OFFICE

Appeal number  
**MAAMN001**

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**1.47 million**



Ulaanbaatar



Branches

**733**



Staff

**250**



Volunteers

**7,500**



People to be reached

**1.5 million**

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.



## SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Population

**3.3 million**

2019 Human Development Index Ranking

**92**

### Vulnerability to disasters



Floods



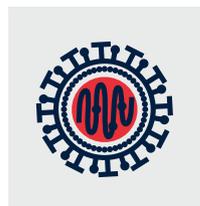
Dzuds  
(severe cold  
winters)



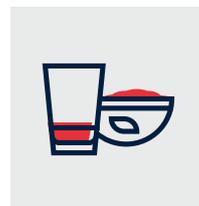
Drought



Extreme heat



Disease  
outbreak



Food scarcity

Mongolia is a young landlocked country bordered by China and Russia. It is divided into 21 provinces that are further split into 329 rural districts and 1,568 sub-districts. However, there is very little arable land. Nearly half of the people live in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and other provincial centres, and life in sparsely populated areas has become more urbanised in recent years. Semi-nomadic life is common in the countryside, though settled agricultural communities are becoming increasingly popular.

Mongolia is regularly affected by climate extremes and severe weather and is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Temperatures can drop to -50 degrees Celsius during the winter, which is why the capital Ulaanbaatar is known as the world's coldest capital city. The country is highly vulnerable to dzuds (severe winters), dust storms, droughts, floods, wildfires, and earthquakes and these have caused catastrophic damage, particularly in rural areas.

The COVID-19 pandemic mildly affected the country after strict measures were undertaken to contain the spread of the virus. Only 313 total cases were reported until September 2020 and there were only 8 active cases at that time with a no mortalities. However, the socio-economic impact of the preventative measures heavily affected the poorest and most vulnerable people in the country, especially in urban areas.



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## ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY



**Established**

**1939**

The Mongolian Red Cross Society is the largest humanitarian organisation in Mongolia and has a strong presence in all provinces and districts. It has 1,250 members of staff, 7,500 volunteers and 75,000 youth members, with 7 regional disaster preparedness centres. The National Society was legally recognised as an independent organisation in 2000, which ensured Government financial support for the Society's humanitarian work.

The primary goal of the National Society is to build capacities for prevention, preparedness, and recovery activities to save lives and livelihoods of people during disasters and emergencies. It also supports community-based public health programs and has a wide network of volunteers, many of whom are youth.

After a major restructuring process in 2014, the National Society's new status and its Strategy 2020 were approved by the National Assembly. Following this, the National Society began conducting assessments of its organisational capacity across Mongolia with support from the IFRC. This assessment process is repeated every two years to evaluate current capacities and monitor progress.

The Legal Status of the National Society was updated from 'national society' to 'national humanitarian assistance organisation' under a newly adopted law in 2016. Since then, the National Society has been playing an auxiliary role to the Government in its humanitarian services with a recognised role in disasters and emergencies, as stated in the Disaster Protection Law of Mongolia.

Over the past three years, the National Society has reached approximately 1.5 million people across Mongolia through its programmes, projects, and life-saving interventions. Its disaster management programme reached 400,000 people, its social inclusion development programme reached 162,000 people, its public health promotion programme reached 293,000 people, and its youth movement programme reached 324,000 people.

# MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

Name of Partner National Society	Climate	Crises	Health	Migration	Inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
Australian Red Cross		✓	✓		✓			
British Red Cross					✓			
Finnish Red Cross						✓		
Italian Red Cross			✓					
Japanese Red Cross								✓
Korean Red Cross								✓
Swedish Red Cross		✓						
Red Cross Society of China			✓					
ICRC					✓			

## Movement footprint

The National Society partners with 14 other National Societies through multilateral and bilateral agreements. Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction, Organisational Development, and Violence Prevention projects are funded by the Australian Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross, and the Finnish Red Cross. The National Society has also recently established a partnership with the National Society of China. The IFRC has been working with the Australian Red Cross, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Japanese Red Cross to support the National Society in multilateral agreements. The State-Red Cross Cooperation council was established in 2017 to set up and promote cooperation between the Government and the National Society at national and local levels.

In close collaboration within the Movement, the IFRC and the ICRC have been working to provide support to Mongolia. The National Society has been working with the ICRC to promote and implement International Humanitarian Law. The ICRC also provided assistance to strengthen the National Society's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

The National Society also has strong relationships with the Government, the United Nations, and other important stakeholders in Mongolia. It has been supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization in scaling up assistance to people affected by dzuds. The National Society also works closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the National Emergency Management Agency, the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Health.

The National Society is a member of the National Emergency Commission and the Humanitarian Country Team involved in the planning and designing of national response to emerging crises. It has supported this group with knowledge, personal protective equipment, and hygiene materials during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With support from the IFRC, the National Society is forming long-term partnerships for development programming with non-Movement partners present in Mongolia such as the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development, the Asian Development Bank, the private sector, and the Mongolian government.



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## CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**120,000**

People to be reached  
**30,000**



The frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards is increasing every year and Mongolia is particularly at risk. One third of people in the country are pastoral herders whose livelihoods are highly vulnerable to weather events. Deadly harsh winters, for instance, can cause many households to lose all of the livestock that their livelihoods are dependent on. The National Society aims to deliver humanitarian assistance to and meet the needs of all those who have lost or have a high risk of losing their livestock.

With support from the IFRC, the National Society implemented its first forecast-case action via the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund in the winter of 2019/2020. The National Society aims to strengthen its capacity for forecast-based action to reduce the risks from climate and environmental crises in the future.



**1/3**  
proportion of population  
that is pastoral herders

### **ACTIVITIES**

- Adapt to and reduce the rising and evolving needs resulting from climate and environmental crises
- Improve early warning systems and early action mechanisms to reach vulnerable people
- Strengthen forecast-based action capacity
- Support peer-to-peer exchanges between National Societies
- Conduct annual Emergency Action Plan activities, refresher training, and simulations
- Facilitate engagement at the local, national, and regional level for continued awareness raising and advocacy



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## EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**570,000**

People to be reached  
**85,000**



Mongolia is vulnerable to extreme winters, flash floods, and storms, and the poorest communities are the most impacted. It's essential to fully assess and identify the needs of those affected by crises and disasters in order to provide humanitarian assistance that results in sustainable recovery.

The National Society aims to increase and strengthen Community Engagement and Accountability elements in its disaster response to ensure readiness and resilience among vulnerable communities. It will promote active engagement in all disaster management phases, in line with Movement-wide commitments.

### **ACTIVITIES**

- Support communities to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards
- Provide communities with actionable risk information
- Support communities to prepare for timely and effective mitigation, response and recover
- Invest in Disaster Risk Reduction, shelter, livelihood and basic needs
- Train 33 National Society branch officers and 500 volunteers in Disaster Risk Reduction
- Train local fire-fighting teams and allocate necessary equipment
- Improve data and evidence generation and strengthen rapid response tools
- Strengthen the local sourcing network by building a database of suppliers



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## GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**300,000**

People to be reached  
**110,000**



The average life expectancy in Mongolia has increased to 69.57 years, with women living almost 10 years longer than men. However, the country has the world's highest rates of illnesses and death due to liver cancer, with over 95 per cent of liver cancer cases associated with hepatitis B and C infection. Mongolia's limited capacity to detect and monitor treatment of communicable diseases results in delays accessing healthcare, treatment failure, and a high number of patients foregoing follow-up care. Ischemic heart disease, cerebrovascular diseases, liver cancer and injuries are among the top causes of death in the country.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene require improvement. Key challenges include soil contamination, poor management of wastewater treatment and disposal, and improper open-pit latrines. Many healthcare facilities remain unconnected to central water supplies and sewer systems, and still use open-pit latrines. People are living longer with chronic illness and the effects of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, stroke, and heart disease. Mongolia has the seventh highest burden of non-communicable diseases and the toll is increasing. Air pollution in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, is among the highest in the world.



**69.57**  
average life  
expectancy in years

### ➔ ACTIVITIES

- Improve epidemic and pandemic preparedness
- Expand the reach, quality and modalities of first aid activities
- Increase the number of voluntary non-remunerated blood donations
- Develop long-term health, water, sanitation, and hygiene and strategies to improve access
- Implement an annual cooperation plan of action with health and emergency authorities



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## MIGRATION AND IDENTITY

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**110,000**

People to be reached  
**2,000**



International migration out of Mongolia has grown rapidly in recent years, with an estimated 130,000 Mongolian migrants residing in other countries in 2016. The primary reason for migration is economic and most migrants are young, educated men. The most common destination countries for people leaving Mongolia are China, Russia, Korea, and Japan.

Internal migration within Mongolia is a longstanding tradition. However, recent trends show high numbers of households moving from rural to urban areas mainly driven by economic reasons, resulting in the depopulation of rural areas and increased urbanisation. Ulaanbaatar has attracted the greatest number of internal migrants, with an average net inflow of around 21,000 people per year.



**21,000**  
people moving to  
Ulaanbaatar every year

### ➔ ACTIVITIES

- Provide migrants and displaced persons with access to assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes
- Conduct an assessment to define the needs of internal and international migrants
- Develop a Plan of Action for the migration programme to include cooperation with internal and external partners
- Host "Pre-departure sessions" for people emigrating from Mongolia to foreign countries
- Provide induction sessions for newly arrived migrants



## VALUES, POWER, AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**160,000**

People to be reached  
**3,500**



Gender-based violence and abuse, and neglect and violence against children are highly prevalent in Mongolia. It is estimated that one in three women are victims of domestic violence, and almost half of all children between the ages of two and 14 years old suffer at least one form of psychological or physical punishment by a household member. Contributing factors to violence include discriminatory gender norms, poverty and lack of employment, and alcohol abuse.

The National Society has made a commitment to strength protection, gender and inclusion that includes child protection and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence across all programme areas. Child protection has been central to this work. The National Society has a Child Protection Policy that provides minimum standards for staff and volunteers involved in the implementation of activities. The overarching strategy of the National Society includes the strategic aim to “promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.”



**1 in 3**  
women victims of  
domestic violence

### ➔ ACTIVITIES

- Increase understanding, ownership and application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles
- Apply agreed minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies on a systematic basis
- Include measures to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in disaster and emergency management plans and activities
- Improve access to assistance and protection for sexual and gender-based violence survivors
- Advocate for the establishment of a regional education hub
- Develop a flagship programme to scale up humanitarian education
- Scale up technical and financial support for youth-led action
- Adopt a comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion approach across operations and programmes



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## ENABLER 1

ENGAGED WITH RENEWED INFLUENCE, INNOVATIVE AND DIGITALLY TRANSFORMED WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**60,000**

In order to strengthen collaboration with partners on the key challenges facing communities, the National Society will actively engage in regional conferences, webinars and workshops organised by the IFRC and partner National Societies. The National Society will network at the regional and global levels to gain stronger visibility and adequate resources. It will engage on the topic of humanitarian challenges in the country with Government agencies and internal organisations.

The National Society will establish strong connections to build up urban resilience through city-wide coalitions and shared commitments with city emergency management systems. It will align policies with local, national, regional, and global levels, and advocate for enhanced community resilience. The National Society will continuously monitor the socio-economic impact on the public and share humanitarian concerns with the IFRC on a regular basis. Meanwhile, the IFRC will enhance the National Society's advocacy skills to more systematically engage in regional and national policy-making and decision-making platforms to influence policies and systems for the most vulnerable people.

The IFRC will use innovative and transformative approaches to better anticipate and adapt to complex challenges and opportunities and enhance its humanitarian preparedness and response actions.

### ACTIVITIES

- Collaborate with partners on the key challenges facing communities
- Influence public behaviour and policy change at the domestic, regional and global levels
- Use innovative and transformative approaches to better anticipate and adapt to complex challenges and opportunities
- Support leadership to enhance their capacity to drive agility, innovation and transformation
- Increase the involvement and leadership of civil society organisations at all levels
- Implement an innovation programme



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## ENABLER 3

TRUSTED BY COMMUNITIES, OWNED AND VALUED BY THE MEMBERSHIP  
WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**100,000**

The IFRC will support the National Society to become the trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action, with capabilities to act in the global network. The National Society's financial stability will be improved through investment in its three pillars - accountability and systems development, resource mobilisation, and vision and mandate.

The IFRC recognises volunteering and youth action as critical catalysts of behaviour change and local action, and this will be prioritised to enhance access and nurture trust. To this end, the National Society will develop and implement a volunteer development plan to include in new approaches, including online volunteering promotion and global revised volunteering policies. In addition, the National Society plans to strengthen the existing volunteers' engagement platform to increase the membership and attract more volunteers from diverse backgrounds. The National Society's youth programme will be a leading focal point of behaviour change and the promotion of volunteerism in the country.

The IFRC will steadily renew its leaders to foster more diversity, resulting in increased volunteer and youth involvement, gender parity, and equitable geographic representation. The National Society will continue to foster diverse leadership composition, female participation in governance and management, and youth and volunteer capacities. The National Society's talent management strategy will be implemented to identify and promote professionals who enhance age and gender equality, diversity, and cultural and geographical inclusion. It will also integrate the six Movement commitments on community engagement and accountability.

### **ACTIVITIES**

- Ensure that the National Society is recognized as the trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action
- Improve financial sustainability
- Improve diversity, including gender parity and equitable geographic representation in leadership and management
- Implement talent management strategy
- Develop and implement a volunteer development plan



**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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