

2022



Laos PRD © Bart Verweij / IFRC

BANGKOK

IFRC CLUSTER PLAN

2022 funding requirement in Swiss francs

3.1 million

As part of a total Federation-wide funding requirement in Swiss franc **6.2 million***



National Societies

4



National Society staff

25,845



National Society volunteers

410,000



People to be reached

360,000

This document details the IFRC's support in areas agreed upon with the relevant National Society. The IFRC seeks resources to carry out this plan, listed here as funding requirements. For information on the IFRC's emergency operations, please visit [ifrc.org/appeals](https://www.ifrc.org/appeals).

* Total for IFRC and National Societies working internationally. Not including the country National Society's funding requirements.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Population

191,133,082

Human Development Index Ranking

Cambodia – 144, Lao – 13, Thailand – 79, Vietnam – 117

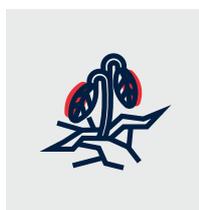
Vulnerability to disasters



Storms



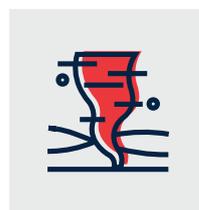
Heatwaves



Drought



Floods



Cyclones



Landslides

The IFRC Bangkok Cluster Delegation supports the National Societies of Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Vietnam is one of the fastest-growing economies of the 21st century, transforming it from one of the world's poorest nations to a lower-middle-income country. Vietnam reduced poverty rates from nearly 10 per cent in 2015 to less than 7 per cent in 2017. Despite its recent growth, Vietnam is one of the countries most affected by climate change. It is at risk of floods, tropical cyclones, landslides, droughts and heatwaves. Public health risks, non-communicable diseases and infectious diseases are also increasing.

In less than a generation, Thailand has moved from a low-income country to an upper-income country. It has the second-largest economy in Southeast Asia. Although poverty has declined over the last three decades from 65 per cent in 1988 to nearly 10 per cent in 2018, income inequality has increased. The country remains vulnerable to floods, tropical cyclones, and droughts. Health risks, including pandemics, non-communicable diseases, infectious diseases, and traffic accidents, are also major concerns.

Lao People's Democratic Republic has halved poverty and reduced malnutrition. The country's challenge is to ensure that the benefits from high economic growth are evenly distributed throughout the country. Communities across Laos are affected by frequent small-scale, recurrent disasters, which have significant socio-economic impacts, raising the level of vulnerability and undermining existing coping mechanisms. Laos also continues to deal with unexploded ordnance in many parts of the country. The socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are a significant setback to the country's plan to stop being of the Least-Developed-Countries.

Most people in Cambodia live close to the poverty line, even though it was one of the fastest-growing economies in Asia before the COVID-19 pandemic. Around 4.5 million people are likely to fall into poverty when exposed to economic and other shocks. Even though Cambodia has handled the COVID-19 pandemic well, the closing of borders and other restrictions have had a significant impact on the economy, especially tourism. Cambodia is also heavily impacted by both floods and droughts.

In 2021, there were surges in the number of people affected by COVID-19, lockdowns and restrictions, which stretched the public health system and had a massive impact on poorer people. Vaccines only slowly became available, but Cambodia and Thailand made significant progress by the end of 2021. While most countries have started lifting restrictions to lessen the socio-economic impacts, the impact of future waves may severely affect unvaccinated people.



ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES

The Cambodian Red Cross assists vulnerable people with disaster management and health care in the community. The National Society disaster preparedness program works in coordination with Cambodia's National Committee for Disaster Management.

In 2017, the National Assembly of Lao passed the Red Cross Law, providing a mandate for the Lao Red Cross in emergencies, primary relief assistance and first aid, blood donations and basic healthcare. The National Society is a member of the National Disaster Prevention and Control Committee. It trained nearly 300 staff and volunteers in epidemic control and provided volunteer group insurance to 400 volunteers who supported the COVID-19 operation.

The Thai Red Cross Society promotes international humanitarian law and provides health services for children, women and older people, including medical and healthcare services, disaster preparedness and response, blood transfusion services, and for social welfare and quality of life.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 80,000 families in Thailand have received COVID-19 relief kits through the Phon Phai disaster response app developed by the Thai Red Cross Society. In 2021, the National Society also vaccinated over 50,000 people with help from more than 200 doctors and 350 nurses as part of their medical volunteer team.

The Vietnam Red Cross Society is a leading humanitarian actor with services including emergency assistance and humanitarian relief, healthcare, first aid, blood, tissue and organ donation, restoring family links, dissemination of humanitarian values, and disaster preparedness and response.

The development of the Red Cross Law has strengthened the position of the National Society in Vietnam. As an auxiliary to the Government and an active member of the National Steering Committee for Countering COVID-19 Response and Prevention, the National Society works with the Ministry of Health and the Centre for Tropical Disease Control in formulating a response for COVID-19 and providing information and personal protective equipment to more than one million people throughout the country.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

Name of Partner National Society	Climate	Crises	Health	Migration	Inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
Cambodia								
ICRC	✓			✓		✓	✓	
Lao PDR								
Swiss Red Cross		✓	✓					
Korean Red Cross			✓					
ICRC							✓	✓
Vietnam								
American Red Cross	✓	✓				✓		✓
German Red Cross	✓	✓				✓		✓
Swiss Red Cross	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Korean Red Cross		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ICRC					✓	✓		✓

The ICRC raises awareness of humanitarian issues and supports National Societies in developing their capacities to promote international humanitarian law, restoring family links and emergency response. It seeks to protect and assist violence-affected people in Thailand and visits detainees. In Cambodia, it supports the authorities in improving prison management. It helps meet the need for assistive and mobility devices in Cambodia and Laos.



GLOBAL FLAGSHIPS

Local action – strong National Society

Two National Societies are supported under the Red Ready initiative to strengthen their humanitarian position. The Women Empowerment Programme will be replicated in other vulnerable communities in Vietnam. Digital transformation provides another lead focus in Vietnam and Thailand. Both National Societies will promote the use of relief assistance apps.

Going to scale on humanitarian action and risk reduction

The IFRC will scale up preparedness actions and emergency responses in climate and environmental crises and evolving disasters and crises. It will develop early action protocols for multiple hazards in Vietnam in addition to the existing heatwave protocol. The Thai Red Cross Society's vaccination programmes will continue to be scaled up, and School Safety Initiatives will be implemented in all four National Societies.

Global cash leadership

Increase capacity for cash readiness in emergency operations in Laos, Vietnam and Thailand. The IFRC will support the National Societies in preparedness and sensitization.

Global health security – epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response

National Societies will continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in response and recovery interventions and regarding its socio-economic impacts. The vaccination programmes of the Thailand and Lao National Societies will be supported.



Louis PDR © Bart Verweij / IFRC

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
100,000

People to be reached
14,000



Urbanization, climate change and the growth of megacities in low-lying flood plains have increased climate risks in the region. In Thailand, the effects of climate change include severe storms, heatwaves, droughts and floods that have caused significant loss of human life and hindered the economy. Fires in the north of Thailand and the resulting poor air quality in cities have left millions with health concerns.

Vietnam is among the most affected countries by climate change globally. Studies show that the country faces sea-level rise, salinity intrusion, and other hydrological problems like floods, river mouth evolution, sedimentation, and the increasing frequency of natural hazards, including cold waves and storm surges. The National Society in Vietnam is implementing the Greening Disaster Risk Reduction initiative with the support of the IFRC.

Cambodia depends on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fishery. Its weak adaptive capacity and limited infrastructure mean rural households and other vulnerable groups struggle to cope with the impacts of climate change.

Similarly, Lao is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to climate change because of its dependence on climate-sensitive natural resources and low adaptive capacity. It is susceptible to drought, floods and typhoons.

In 2022, IFRC will provide technical support to National Societies to analyse vulnerability and exposure to climate shocks, including via forecast-based financing, to anticipate climate impacts and identify suitable early actions.



5 million
people affected by Typhoon
Ulysses/Vamco in the Philippines
and Vietnam in November 2020

➔ SUPPORT

- Implement risk reduction approaches.
- Implement nature-based solutions.
- Establish early action mechanisms at the community level.



Vietnam © IFRC

EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

570,000

People to be reached

11,000



Droughts, floods, tropical storms and forest fires are frequent occurrences and caused per cent of displacements in the four countries in 2017.

While Thailand has comparably robust disaster management systems and structures, the country remains at risk of major disasters, including floods, tropical cyclones, droughts and heatwaves. In 2021 droughts, forest fires, and COVID-19 demonstrated the need for Thailand to strengthen its community-level disaster risk reduction.

Droughts, floods, and storms are the most prevalent hazards in Laos and are expected to become more severe because of climate change. These events have significant impacts on the critical agriculture sector, which contributes about 24 per cent to the country's gross domestic product and employs 64 per cent of people. The poorest people have suffered the brunt of disasters due to their higher vulnerability and reduced ability to recover. The Lao Red Cross Society works closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and is supporting the dissemination of the new Disaster Emergency Fund Decree.

Cambodia has a relatively high exposure to natural disasters. Droughts, floods, and typhoons have devastated crops and caused significant loss of life. Typhoons and tropical storms in the Pacific can lead to a heavy flood season in Cambodia, and the wet season sees water from the Mekong River cause flooding.



22%

of damage from
natural disasters in
the agricultural sector



61%

of new displacements
in 2017 caused by
disasters

➔ SUPPORT

- Strengthen community resilience through training on enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment.
- Provide community-based disaster risk reduction kits.
- Enhance the use of disaster response apps.
- Adapt, contextualize and share information in local languages.

GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
490,000

People to be reached
167,000



Water, sanitation and hygiene are primary needs in emergency operations throughout the region.

Achieving good health for all remains a significant challenge for Cambodia. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the country had a high prevalence of communicable diseases due to limited access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. This causes a high child mortality rate directly associated with diarrheal diseases.

Laos faces a shortage of adequately trained professionals, weak infrastructure, limited ability to monitor infectious diseases and respond to outbreaks, limited maternal and child health care coverage, and an overstretched health care workforce.

In Thailand, non-communicable diseases caused most deaths before the COVID-19 pandemic. Infectious diseases like malaria and tuberculosis, road accidents, and air pollution are major public health concerns.

Vietnam experiences low water quantities and quality in coastal areas, and the changing patterns of infectious diseases have posed new threats to health and livelihoods. It is prone to tropical diseases such as dengue fever and malaria. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a test for the health system in Vietnam in general and for the National Society's capacity to respond to a public health crisis.

The IFRC will prioritize strengthening the response to the COVID-19 pandemic by enhancing the capacity of the National Societies. It will provide technical support for migrants living with HIV/AIDS in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand to ensure access to antiretroviral treatment and care.

The IFRC will continue to strengthen cross-border cooperation through blood services, first aid and other services while continuously promoting peer-to-peer support.



37%

of sanitation coverage in Cambodia



77%

of water supply coverage in Cambodia

➔ SUPPORT

- Develop an active WASH strategy.
- Participate in national platforms to advocate and share their role in healthcare, WASH and COVID-19.
- Provide communities with improved access to safe water.
- Provide support services during epidemic/pandemic responses.



20,000

children under the age of five die each year from diarrhoea, malnutrition, and respiratory disease in Lao



Thailand © Vinai Damkliang

MIGRATION AND IDENTITY

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

120,000

People to be reached

4,000



Within the countries covered by this cluster, people migrate for employment, improved livelihoods, family reunification, access to healthcare, education, or to seek safety and protection.

Humanitarian needs related to migration, displacement and identity are complex. The IFRC is uniquely placed to respond to the health and basic needs of migrants and displaced people during their journeys due to the presence of staff and volunteers of National Societies along migratory routes.

The IFRC's support is focused on National Society capacity strengthening and developing National Society Plans of Action at the national and branch level. The overarching goal is that National Societies' staff and volunteers are able to engage with migrants, displaced people and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs.

SUPPORT

- Increase humanitarian service points.
- Advocate for migrants' access to essential public services.
- Engage with migrants and host communities to assess and respond to priority needs.



VALUES, POWER AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

290,000

People to be reached

165,000



Since the completion of the Regional Resilience Initiative in late 2018, the National Societies have achieved significant progress in:

- mainstreaming gender and diversity in strategies, plans and services
- strengthening their knowledge on protection, gender and inclusion
- increasing sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response

The IFRC will support National Societies to position themselves as strong actors in this area in partnership with related national authorities, including ministries of health, national committees responsible for humanitarian affairs, specialized civil society organizations, and UN agencies.

In 2020, the IFRC successfully supported the revitalization of the Southeast Asia Youth Network. The IFRC will continue to coordinate and support the Southeast Asia Youth Network and youth activities in Southeast Asia. It will focus on scaling up the Youths as Agents of Behavioural Change Initiative and integrate activities into training in other areas to contribute to developing new programmes on humanitarian education.

The IFRC will provide technical advice and capacity-building support with a focus on protection, gender and inclusion. It will revitalize the Southeast Asia protection, gender and inclusion network to strengthen peer-to-peer learning and the mainstreaming of protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies.

As part of the Manila Call for Action, the four National Societies will strengthen women's leadership initiatives and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy development, including clearer referral mechanisms for reporting and support.

SUPPORT

- Showcase National Society practices in youth-led interventions.
- Target schools and communities with diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination campaigns.
- Ensure that programmes and operations provide dignity, access, participation and safety for all affected people.



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ENABLER 1 – ENGAGED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

200,000

The IFRC will work with the National Societies in the cluster to be the humanitarian partners of choice. To achieve this, it will support them to keep pace with digital innovation and training –needs that became even more evident during COVID-19 restrictions. It will equip National Societies with the tools to increase their capacity to support more vulnerable people.

The IFRC will develop federation-wide actions to ensure a robust peer-to-peer system is in operation. Organizational strategies, plans and policy development activities to incorporate and prioritize innovation and transformation will take place.

TARGETS

- 5% annual increase in digital fundraising in Vietnam.
- Thai National Society will develop a case study on vaccinations.
- 66 provinces to incorporate geographic information systems in Thailand.

SUPPORT

- Develop a unified platform and volunteering management system.
- Develop an e-learning curriculum on the Family Elderly Care Programme.
- Create an online first aid course.



ENABLER 2 – ACCOUNTABLE

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
1.1 million

The IFRC has a strong gender, diversity and inclusion culture at an institutional level and in the way humanitarian operations are carried out, including mechanisms for monitoring and improvement.

It will deliver promised programmes and improvements to National Societies, staff, volunteers and their communities as efficiently as possible and provide them with technical support to reinforce their partnerships, resource mobilization, financial sustainability and accountability processes.

🎯 TARGETS

- Audited financial statements submitted.
- PSEA policy and action plan created.
- Data management systems are functional.

🔄 SUPPORT

- Develop policies and awareness on fraud and corruption, sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse.
- Complete training on fraud and corruption prevention and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.



Cambodia © Cambodian Red Cross

ENABLER 3 – TRUSTED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

180,000

The IFRC will prioritize volunteering development and youth action as critical catalysts of behavioural change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts. This will allow young people to contribute to decision making, innovation and strengthening the national networks. This will result in better understanding of the needs of young people to participate in discussions and decision-making processes at the local level.

The IFRC will also support National Societies to protect volunteers and provide greater support to those killed or injured in the line of duty, and their families.

🎯 TARGETS

- The IFRC Secretariat effectively supports National Societies to become the trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian.

🔄 SUPPORT

- Implement volunteer databases and online system.
- Strengthen engagement with reference centres to share knowledge.
- Develop policies in fraud and corruption, PSEA, non-discrimination, harassment and child safeguarding.



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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