

2022



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MYANMAR

IFRC COUNTRY PLAN

2022 funding requirement in Swiss francs
7.6 million

As part of a total Federation-wide funding requirement in Swiss franc **11.2 million***



National Society
branches

330



National Society
staff

600



National Society
volunteers

44,000



People to be reached

460,000

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.

+C IFRC

Appeal number
MAAMM002

www.ifrc.org



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SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Population

54,409,800

Human Development Index Ranking

147

Vulnerability to disasters

Heatwaves	Cyclones	Droughts	Floods	Displacement	Conflict

Myanmar is in a state of protracted crisis. Since February 2021, political events have precipitated widespread civil unrest, with increasing levels of insecurity and displacement. The immediate humanitarian needs generated by the above and the COVID-19 pandemic are compounded by pre-existing community vulnerabilities. In many regions/states access to health and WASH services, as well as livelihoods opportunities are minimal. Protracted displacement as well as exposure to natural disaster events and climate change impacts also impact significantly on affected populations. In 2022, Myanmar will face an escalation in humanitarian needs across broad segments of the population, impacting at a national scale.

Globally, Myanmar is one of the most vulnerable countries to natural hazards including cyclones, floods, earthquakes and landslides. Communities are at risk from heatwaves, cyclones, flooding and droughts. Many of these people can be hard to reach, especially following sudden onset disasters.

As humanitarian access to communities is impacted by both civil unrest and COVID-19, Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) will continue to be an essential provider of humanitarian services in 2022. This increasing reliance on support by vulnerable people across the country requires enhanced preparedness and response capacities of MRCS at a national as well as local scale.

Due to the impacts of civil unrest, public health services across the country had been severely disrupted, in the first half of 2021. Hospitals were overwhelmed and access to medical care and oxygen supplies for people seriously ill with COVID was minimal, particularly for those limited resources.



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ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

The Myanmar Red Cross Society is widely recognized as the largest humanitarian organization in the country with access and reach to the most vulnerable communities across all 17 regions and states. Response capacity includes 23 warehouses in operation across the country for the storage of relief items for up to 21,500 households.

The National Society's strategy 2021–2025 addresses humanitarian response capacities alongside a commitment to building resilience and reducing long term socio-economic vulnerability.

The three strategic goals are as follows:

- **Goal 1:** Build healthier and safer communities, reduce their vulnerabilities and strengthen their resilience.
- **Goal 2:** Promote understanding & respect for the Red Cross Principles, Humanitarian Values and IHL as means to promoting social cohesion.
- **Goal 3:** Strengthen understanding of the MRCS auxiliary role among the humanitarian sector by developing a strong, well-functioning & resourceful NS.

This plan addresses these priorities through investments in MRCS response capacity, recognising the increasing imperative for a strong, well functioning and resourceful national society as the scale of humanitarian need across the country is expected to continue to escalate in 2022.

IFRC will support MRCS in:

- Building community resilience to the impacts of poverty and natural hazards compounded by protracted crisis.
- Scaling up emergency response capacity across key response sectors.
- Increasing community awareness of humanitarian principles and understanding of the NS role and mandate.
- Building Branch capacity for timely response to multiple crises.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

Name of Partner National Society	Climate	Crises	Health	Migration	Inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
American Red Cross		✓	✓			✓		✓
Australian Red Cross		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
British Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Danish Red Cross			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Finnish Red Cross	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
German Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Norwegian Red Cross			✓		✓		✓	
Swedish Red Cross			✓		✓			✓

In addition to support from the IFRC, the MRCS benefits from technical and financial support from the following partners in the IFRC-wide network, as well as from the ICRC.



GLOBAL FLAGSHIPS

Local action – stronger National Societies

Addressing increased humanitarian needs at the branch level, in a complex operating context of reduced access for large scale response interventions is a key priority. This aligns with the National Society's strategic focus on decentralization. The IFRC's support for branch development will be incorporated in programmes and operational responses. Rapid scale up of branch preparedness skills and capacities for multiple emergency contexts will be critical.

Going to scale on humanitarian action and risk reduction

Recognizing Myanmar's significant vulnerability to climate change impacts and natural disasters, risk mitigation is a National Society priority. The IFRC will support the National Society in community-led response to climate change, developed for both urban and rural (coastal) locations and engaging with the most vulnerable communities. The IFRC will also support the National Society with continued research and capacity building initiatives on the topic of climate change and health.

Global cash leadership

As co-Lead of the national Cash Working Group, the National Society will have a central role in promoting knowledge and good practice for in cash and voucher modalities within the sector. The IFRC will support the National Society to develop innovative modalities to reach affected communities within a restrictive financial operating environment. Cash grants and cash transfer modalities will be made available to support health, WASH, livelihoods and women's economic empowerment.

Global health security – epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response

The IFRC will direct efforts towards promoting public health interventions including COVID-19 risk communication activities, supporting containment measures, screening and disinfecting. Patient assistance for post-vaccination monitoring is also supported by volunteers at vaccination centres.

Patient transport, hygiene/dignity kits and psychosocial support will be provided to people in self-isolation. WASH facilities will continue to be provided for people in high-risk settings, including displacement sites, as well as in schools and community centres. The IFRC will support continuous initiatives to mobilize critical supplies of testing kits and oxygen for medical facilities and individuals.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

1.1 million

People to be reached

154,720



Myanmar is ranked the second most affected country by the impacts of extreme climate events in globe over the last two decades based on Global Climate Risk Index score¹.

Its location put it at risk of heatwaves, flooding and droughts. The sea level along Myanmar's coast in the south-west is projected to rise between 20 and 41 centimetres by 2050, exacerbating existing levels of widespread flooding in coastal areas.

Populations in Myanmar's dry region are already experiencing severe hardship, linked to water scarcity. The population has a low capacity to prepare for or cope with heatwaves and other climate events and must also be supported to adapt and prepare to sustain livelihoods.

The IFRC and Myanmar's National Society are implementing two key programmes into 2022:

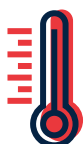
- The Climate-Smart Urban Risk Resilience Program (URR), developing school and community capacities in climate change related risk assessment and mitigation, supported by branches and municipal stakeholders.
- The Rakhine Community Resilience Program (CRP) incorporating climate change initiatives for natural resources protection and restoration for rural communities.

The National Society will be supported to build knowledge and capacity on climate change awareness and mitigation initiatives through trainings and participation in regional initiatives, studies and analyses. This includes a specific focus on the impacts of climate change on health, disaster risk reduction and livelihoods, focused particularly on communities with existing vulnerabilities in Myanmar.



16th

out of 191 countries most affected by natural hazards and climate change (INFORM risk index)



2.7°C

potential temperature could rise by 2050



Top 5

countries with the greatest increase in risk of climate change between 2020–2040

TARGETS

- 154,720 people reached with climate and environmental activities.
- 40 communities in Rakhine supported to integrate climate and environmental crises actions into their Community Action Plans.
- 1,500 households in Rakhine State supported to use climate friendly, low-emission energy efficient cooking stoves.

SUPPORT

- Increase climate resilience and capacity building in coastal areas including Rakhine State and in urban locations, with focus on Mandalay and Sagaing regions.
- Develop early warning early actions and community intervention planning.
- Develop community-based adaptation initiatives integrated into multi-sector community resilience programmes.

¹ <https://germanwatch.org/en/19777>

EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

2.6 million

People to be reached

175,000



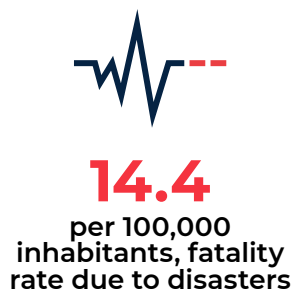
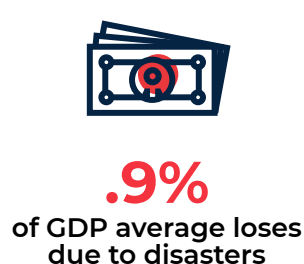
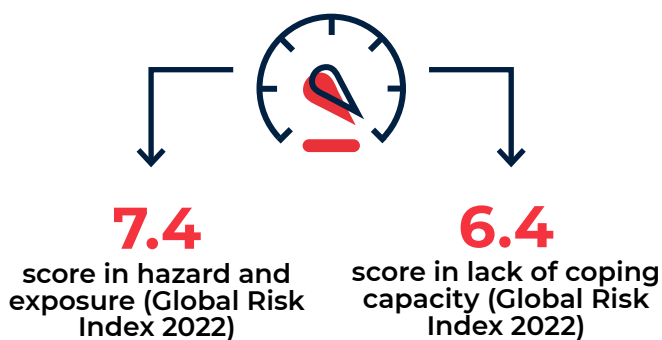
In the last two decades, Myanmar has been hit by category four cyclones, earthquakes and floods affecting over 13 million people. Cyclone Nargis caused 138,000 fatalities alone in 2008.

The country is highly exposed to hazards and has a low capacity to cope linked to poverty, inadequate access to healthcare and poor transport infrastructure. The impacts of COVID-19 and civil unrest are further reducing coping capacity as well as constraining access to reach people in affected townships with timely assistance. The most recent impacts of civil unrest include widespread displacement, further increasing exposure to natural disasters through inadequate shelter and access to basic services.

The IFRC will support the National Society to program interventions for disaster risk reduction, including community preparedness, and small-scale infrastructure for flood mitigation. Branch level preparedness capacity through first aid disaster management training are also key areas of investment. Livelihood restoration and recovery are ongoing priorities as key components of resilience programming currently being implemented in Rakhine State where communities continue to be impacted by recurrent natural disasters and the effects of protracted crisis.

The IFRC will also continue programmes to increase preparedness and readiness to respond to shocks affecting lives, livelihoods, homes and living conditions of the most disadvantaged and hard to reach:

- Climate Smart Urban Risk Resilience Programme
- Rakhine Community Resilience Program Phase
- Disaster Management Capacity Enhancement Program



TARGETS

- 175,000 people with improved disaster risk awareness.
- 1,125 households in Rakhine State supported with cash grants or in-kind support for food production and income generating activities.
- 40 communities in Rakhine State supported to implement risk informed DRR projects implemented to prepare and respond to disasters.

SUPPORT

- Support communities with disaster risk reduction investments including small scale infrastructure.
- Strengthen coping capacities through cash and voucher assistance amongst the most vulnerable communities.
- Increase local branch skills and resources for early warning/early action, and timely response interventions for the hardest to reach communities.

GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

1.2 million

People to be reached

82,630



Limited access to healthcare services was a critical challenge in Myanmar, even prior to the impacts of COVID-19 and civil unrest. Myanmar is one of the countries in Southeast Asia region with the lowest health worker availability. Maternal mortality and under 5 mortality rates are also high. As a result of the sudden events of 2021, the pre-existing low levels of healthcare were further reduced by decreasing functionality of the public health sector, already under pressure by the COVID-19 pandemic, including vaccination roll-out.

Injuries linked to accidents is also one of the top ten causes of morbidity and mortality in Myanmar. The need for access to first aid and emergency health services is expected to increase in the context of reduced access to public sector services.

Increasing basic access to clean water and sanitation in communities is a key priority, particularly in rural areas. Requirements for emergency WASH services are also expected to increase in 2022, as people displaced by conflict require access to clean water and sanitation in temporary displacement sites.

Providing increased basic health services and knowledge to communities through integrated program which incorporate both WASH and health interventions is a priority.

Increasing coverage and skills of volunteers and community members in first aid is also critical, in the current operating context. The incorporation of skills in basic Psychological First Aid (PFA) will be further integrated as volunteers reach communities increasingly impacted by the civil unrest across affected regions and states.



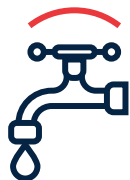
45

per 1,000 under 5 mortality rate (2019)



76.4%

of current health spending in Myanmar is paid out-of-pocket by families



40%

of rural communities do not have access to improved water supply



33%

of rural communities do not have access to improved sanitation

TARGETS

- Train over 1,000 people in First Aid.
- Reach 63,070 people with health promotion.
- Reach over 17,560 people with sustained access to improved water and sanitation facilities.

SUPPORT

- Develop basic health care knowledge and expertise at the community level.
- Expand first aid skills of volunteers to additional communities.
- Provide vulnerable and hard to reach communities with improved water and sanitation facilities, incorporating training to upskill maintenance capacities.



MIGRATION AND IDENTITY

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
410,000

People to be reached
4,000



Migration and displacement are some of the biggest humanitarian challenges in Myanmar. 370,000 people were displaced in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Kayin and Shan States due to protracted crisis and since 1 February 2021, a further 295,000 people have been displaced as a result of the civil unrest across a number of additional regions and states.

The combined impacts of COVID-19 and civil unrest have also meant that many people who originally migrated from rural communities for livelihoods purposes had to return to their village of origin, with limited income opportunities.

The National Society, with support from IFRC, has recently developed a migration policy and an accompanying Migration Strategy 2022–2025. The strategy supports the National Society to further operationalize humanitarian assistance, protection and advocacy, to support the significant levels of anticipated displacement.

Some people returning to Myanmar will have spent periods in detention facilities and many will have limited access to basic services. Branches in townships in border areas in particular, will be supported to provide immediate relief assistance as well as provide additional support in Restoring Family Links.

🎯 TARGETS

- 4,000 affected people supported with recovery-oriented humanitarian assistance following protracted displacement.
- 8 regions/states branches strengthen systems for migration and displacement support.



≥ 665,000
people displaced across 8 of
Myanmar's 17 Regions/States

➡ SUPPORT

- Develop and scale-up capacities and systems to respond to migration and displacement needs in line with policy and 2022–2025 strategy framework.
- Provide basic humanitarian services to the most vulnerable communities in context of migration and displacement.
- Strengthen resilience and coping capacities for affected populations in situations of protracted crisis.



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VALUES, POWER AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
290,000

People to be reached
41,550



Maintaining humanitarian assistance in fragile operating contexts requires consistent engagement with key stakeholders to ensure timely reach to affected communities. The IFRC will continue to support National Society initiatives for humanitarian diplomacy, promoting MRCS's impartial and neutral mandate in line with the Fundamental Principles.

Within existing community resilience programs, the IFRC will continue to support the National Society to prioritize effective models of economic empowerment for women. This includes scaling up initiatives for the Women's Revolving Fund in Rakhine State.

In line with increasing localization of response interventions, the IFRC and MRCS will work to consolidate, and prepare materials on protection, gender and inclusion in accessible formats for application by local branches in their community engagement.

Existing youth programmes, focusing on sports interventions for youth empowerment, behavioural change and building social cohesion will be supported for potential scale-up. Existing initiatives to build youth coalitions through the IFRC Asia-Pacific peer networks will continue to be enhanced.

TARGETS

- 41,550 people reached with Values, Power and Inclusion Activities.
- 25,000 people reached by RCRC educational programmes.
- 113 Womens' Group Revolving Funds operational.



30%

less likely for women in Myanmar to be in the labour force than men

SUPPORT

- Scale up women's economic empowerment in community resilience programs.
- Build youth-focused program outcomes promoting social change.
- Enhance skills and capacities in youth networks within the Asia-Pacific region.



≥ 50%

of Myanmar's population are aged under 30



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ENABLER 1 – ENGAGED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

480,000

The IFRC will support the National Society to reach all affected communities and prioritize humanitarian policy engagement to be accepted as an effective, neutral and impartial humanitarian organisation.

The IFRC will support communications risk management, especially social media and profiling of National Society lifesaving and community response activities. It will support the digital transformation of the National Society's operation to increase knowledge sharing across all 17 regions/states and 330 townships.

TARGETS

- NS supported with Communications Strategy aligned to Myanmar operating context.

SUPPORT

- Develop communications skills and knowledge for the National Society.
- Increase messaging to communities and agencies across regions/states on MRCS mandate in line with the auxiliary role.
- Increase engagement and actively participate in humanitarian planning within the sector.
- Progress branch connectivity in line with the IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy.
- Lead on in-country Movement Coordination and planning in line with NS 2021–2025 Strategy.



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ENABLER 2 – ACCOUNTABLE

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

440,000

The IFRC has a strong culture of systems development working with National Societies to enhance accountability and safeguarding mechanisms, monitoring and improvement.

To work as one organization globally, it will deliver promised programmes and improvements to the National Society, staff, volunteers and their communities as efficiently as possible.

The IFRC will provide technical support to the National Society to reinforce its partnerships, resource mobilization, financial sustainability and accountability processes.

🎯 TARGETS

- 100% of emergency operations will mainstream Federation-wide risk management.
- Investment plan developed to commercialise First Aid through regional/state branches.
- Core staff will be trained in protection against sexual exploitation and abuse.

🔄 SUPPORT

- Identify new multi-year funding opportunities.
- Resource mobilisation support to MRCS for financial sustainability in regions/states.
- Investment plan developed to commercialise First Aid through regional/state branches.
- Improve capacity building and systems development within the National Society, incorporating financial and organizational commitments, awareness and accountability.



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ENABLER 3 – TRUSTED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

780,000

The IFRC will support the National Society in Myanmar to accelerate initiatives for both organizational and branch development and operational capacities, in line with the need for local humanitarian response needs.

It will prioritize volunteering development, recognizing the need to acknowledge and safeguard MRCS's network of active volunteers responding to multiple crises across each region and state. This includes a strong emphasis of protection and insurance mechanisms, and greater support to those killed or injured in the line of duty, and their families.

TARGETS

- Complete revision of MRCS Partnership Framework.
- Conduct an Organisational Capacity Assessment & Certification (OCAC) Review with support from IFRC.
- Scale up coverage of health, accident and death compensation for all volunteers.

SUPPORT

- Continue initiatives for organizational development for both staff and volunteers.
- Continue engagement and peer learning through Asia Pacific technical reference centres and regional networks.
- Develop institutional capacities in resource mobilization, community engagement and accountability and in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.



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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