

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a flooded field. Two people are visible in the middle ground, standing in the water. The field is filled with tall, thin reeds or grasses that are partially submerged. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall tone of the image is somber and environmental.

# **IFRC CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**Results from the 2021 Global Survey**

**Cover photo** Residents wade through flooded cornfield after Typhoon Haima hit San Pablo Isabela northern Philippines October 20, 2016. Strong winds brought by Typhoon Haima toppled down electric posts, damaged houses and flooded corn fields in Isabela and Cagayan provinces. © IFRC

© **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva, 2022**

Any part of this publication may be cited, copied, translated into other languages or adapted to meet local needs without prior permission from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, provided that the source is clearly stated. Requests for commercial reproduction should be directed to the IFRC at [secretariat@ifrc.org](mailto:secretariat@ifrc.org)

# CONTENTS

<b>Background</b>	<b>4</b>
Methodology	5
<b>National Societies' climate and environment priorities and targets</b>	<b>9</b>
Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis	9
IFRC Secretariat Plan and Budget 2021–2025	12
Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations	13
Other climate- and environment-related priorities	16
<b>National Societies' knowledge and capacity to carry out climate- and environment-related work</b>	<b>17</b>
Climate knowledge and expertise	17
Programming and operations	22
Climate finance	26
<b>Support and engagement needed to advance climate work</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Technical annex</b>	<b>36</b>
Good practice examples from National Societies	36
List of respondents	38
List of questions	39

# BACKGROUND

Climate change has caused widespread and rapid changes affecting people across the globe and these impacts will only get worse without immediate and determined action. The climate and environmental crises are also driving risks and making humanitarian work more challenging.

As the world's largest humanitarian network, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) recognizes its important role in increasing climate action. IFRC [Strategy 2030](#) prioritises the climate and environmental crises as the most pressing humanitarian issue confronting the IFRC network in the next ten years. The first strategic priority of the **IFRC Secretariat's Plan and Budget 2021–2025** is therefore focused on addressing the climate and environmental crises and seeks to generate systemic and transformational change in the way we work. This strategic priority focuses on mobilising urgent action to reduce and adapt to the rising risks as well as adopting environmentally sustainable practices and contributing to climate change mitigation.

The 2020 [Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis](#) set out the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's role and vision, including where we need to increase our efforts and capacity, to effectively scale up our action to address the climate crisis. In addition, in May 2021, following extensive consultations with climate experts, practitioners and networks, IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) launched the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#) to promote a transformational change across the humanitarian sector. As of December 2021, 200 organizations had signed the Charter, of which 64 were Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies.

A high bar has been set on what is expected of the Red Cross and Red Crescent network in the years ahead.

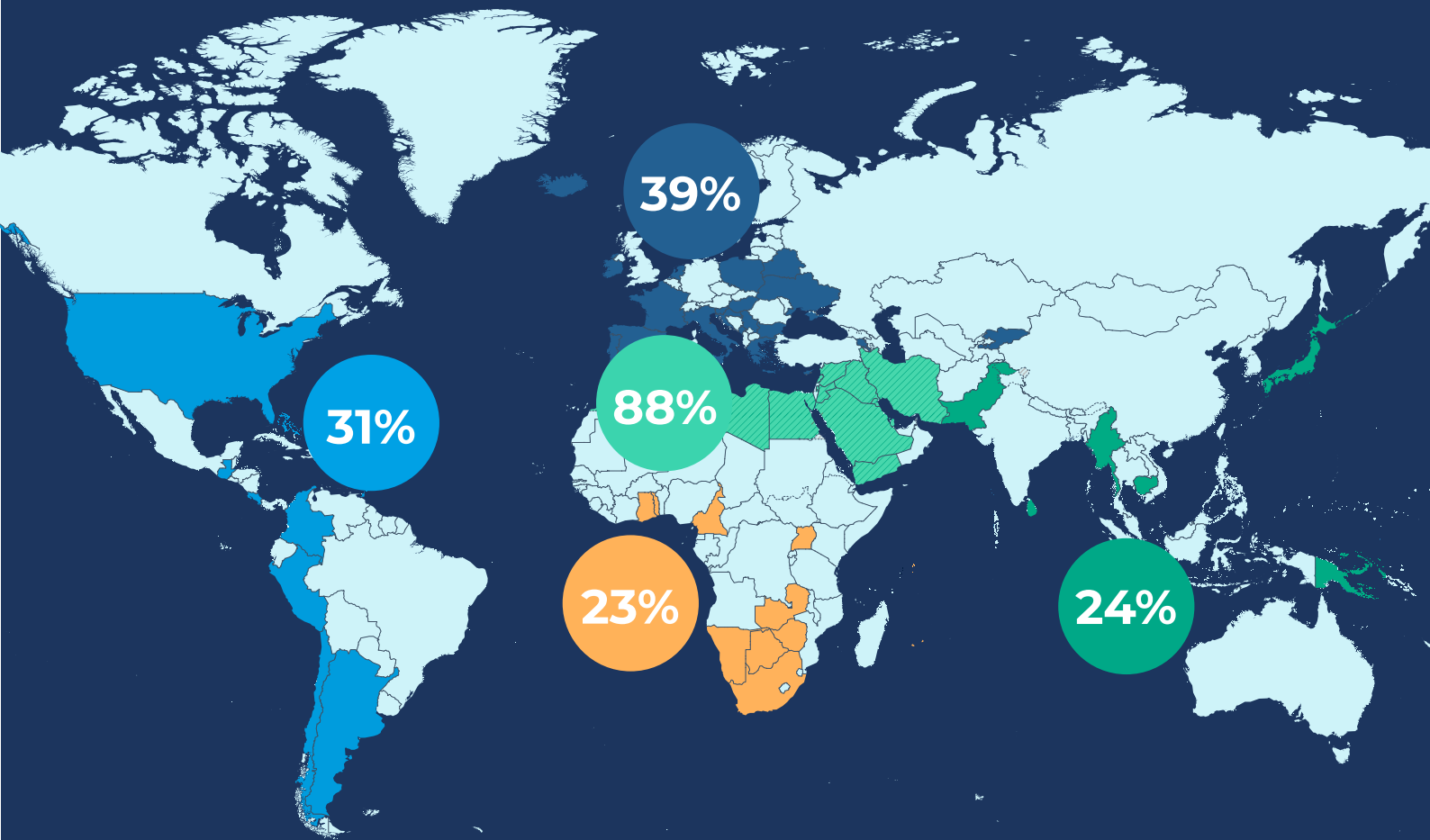
National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ("National Societies") work in nearly every country around the world and act as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field. They are in a unique position to call for greater climate action and offer support to their government and other partners in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable people and reducing climate-related risks.

The **Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability Survey** sought to understand National Societies' priorities and how these are connected to the IFRC and Movement strategic documents. It explored National Societies' perceived capacities and needs to deliver on ambitions set out in the strategic documents. This report provides baseline information on the current priorities of National Societies in scaling up climate action, as well as their current level of capacity and engagement in working on climate change. It will be used to guide the efforts of the IFRC Secretariat, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre and the wider IFRC network, and to shape the focus of membership coordination platforms, including at the regional level.

## Methodology

In this report, data from two surveys administered in July–August 2021 was used: a Global Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability survey and a regional Middle East and North Africa (MENA) survey (including the same set of global questions).

A total of 67 National Societies participated in the surveys, with the highest percentage in the MENA region (88% of all National Societies), followed by Europe (39%), Americas (31%), Asia Pacific (24%) and Africa (23%).





**Philippines 2021** Typhoon Rai was the strongest storm to hit the country in 2021. Torrential rain and flash floods cut through the tropical paradise wiping out homes, destroying vegetation and damaging infrastructure. Within several hours, the storm surge swept away Glicerio Magdula's entire home. Magdula scavenged for his possessions amidst the debris.

© Alecs Ongcal







“

**Sufficient funding would allow us to increase our levels of capability in implementing climate and environmental best practice approaches to drive awareness, adoption, and integration of best practice tools and techniques across our National Society and partners we work with.**

Irish Red Cross

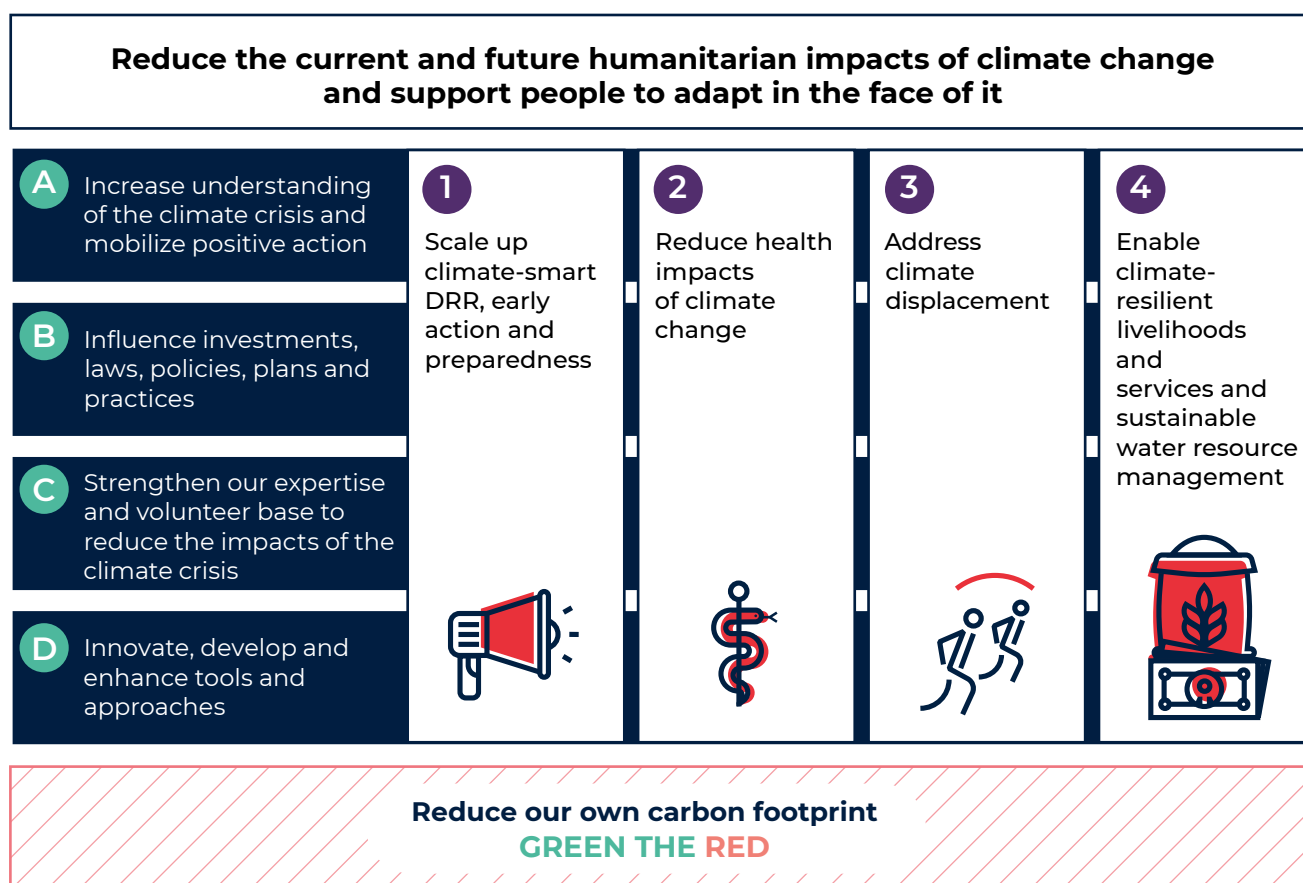
”



# NATIONAL SOCIETIES' CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT PRIORITIES AND TARGETS

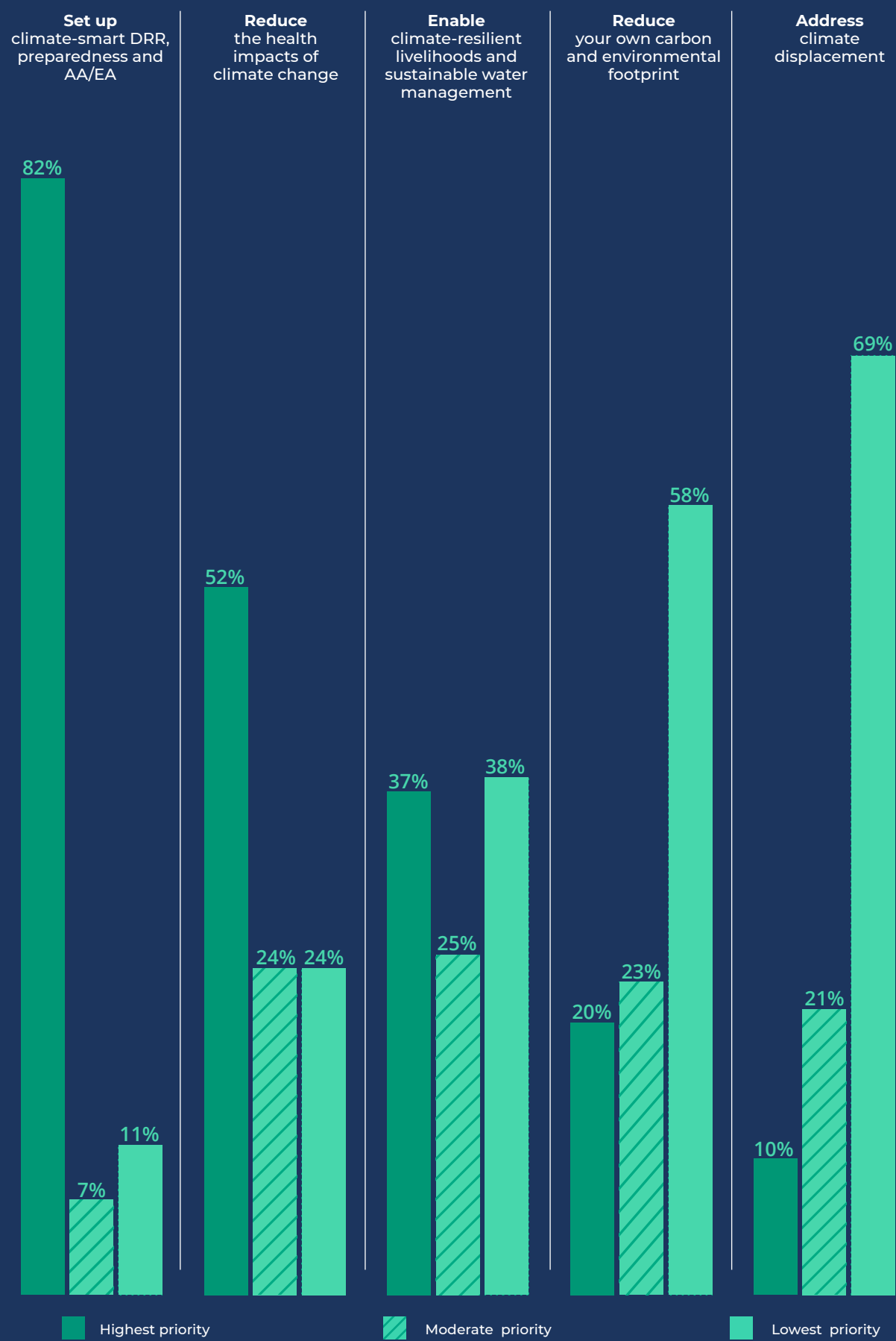
## Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis

The Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis set out four pillars of action and four enabling approaches, that both draw on our current strengths and direct us towards areas needing increased focus (such as reducing the health impacts of climate change), with a cross-cutting ambition of greening our way of working.



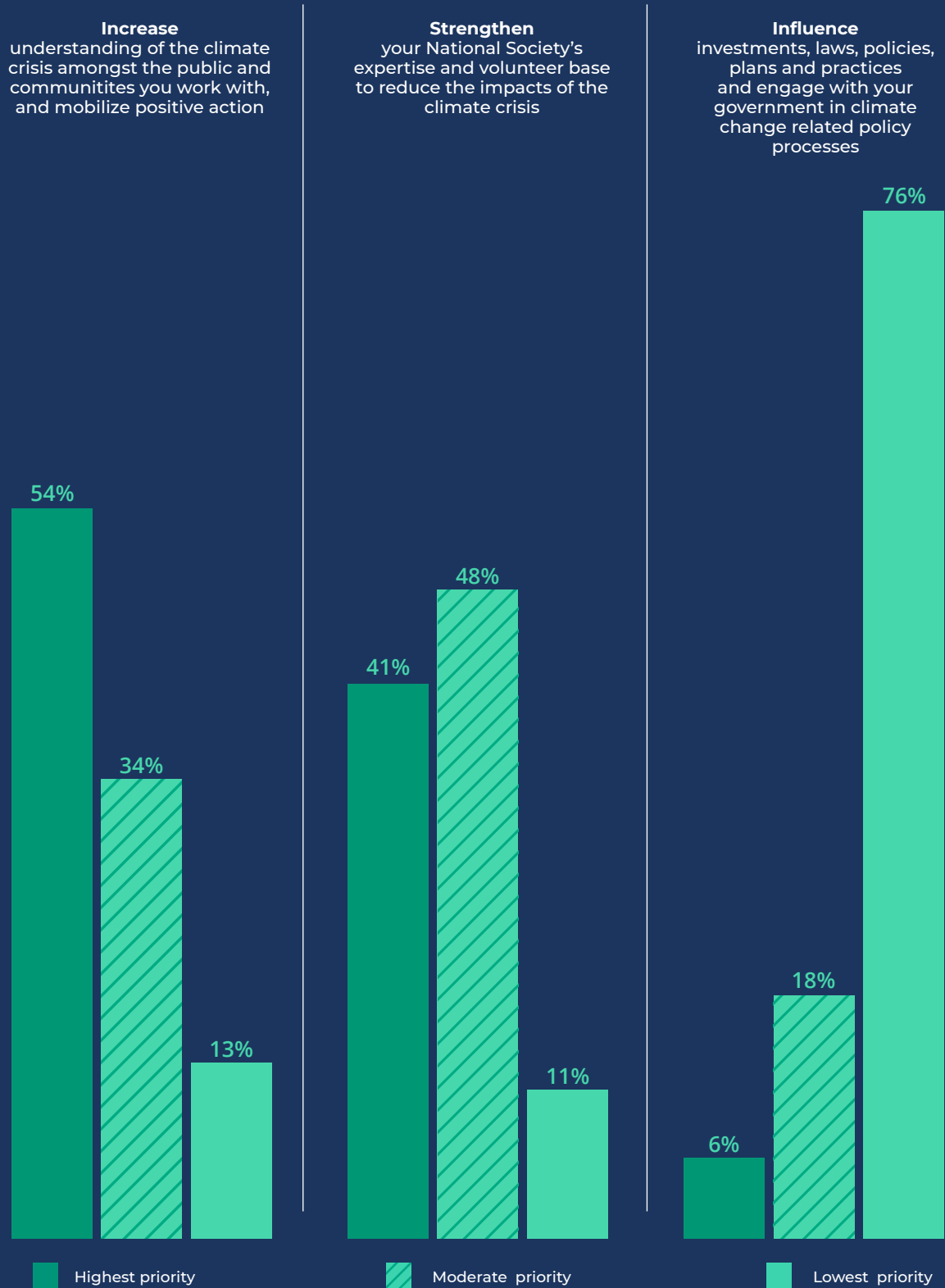
Among the four pillars of action, 82% of National Societies who responded to the survey (58 National Societies) consider scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction and anticipatory/early action as their top priority. Reducing the health impacts of climate change ranks second (52%), enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and sustainable water management ranks third (37%), while addressing climate displacement ranks lowest in the list of priorities (10%).

Figure 1 Priorities from the pillars of action from the Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis



Among the three enabling approaches, 54% of respondents (38 National Societies) indicate that their highest priority is increasing the public’s understanding of, and action to address, the climate crisis. The second highest priority of National Societies is strengthening their expertise and volunteer base to reduce the impacts of the climate crisis (41%). Influencing laws, policies, plans and practices and engaging with government is the lowest priority for 76% of National Societies (54).

**Figure 2** *Priorities from the enabling approaches from the Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis*

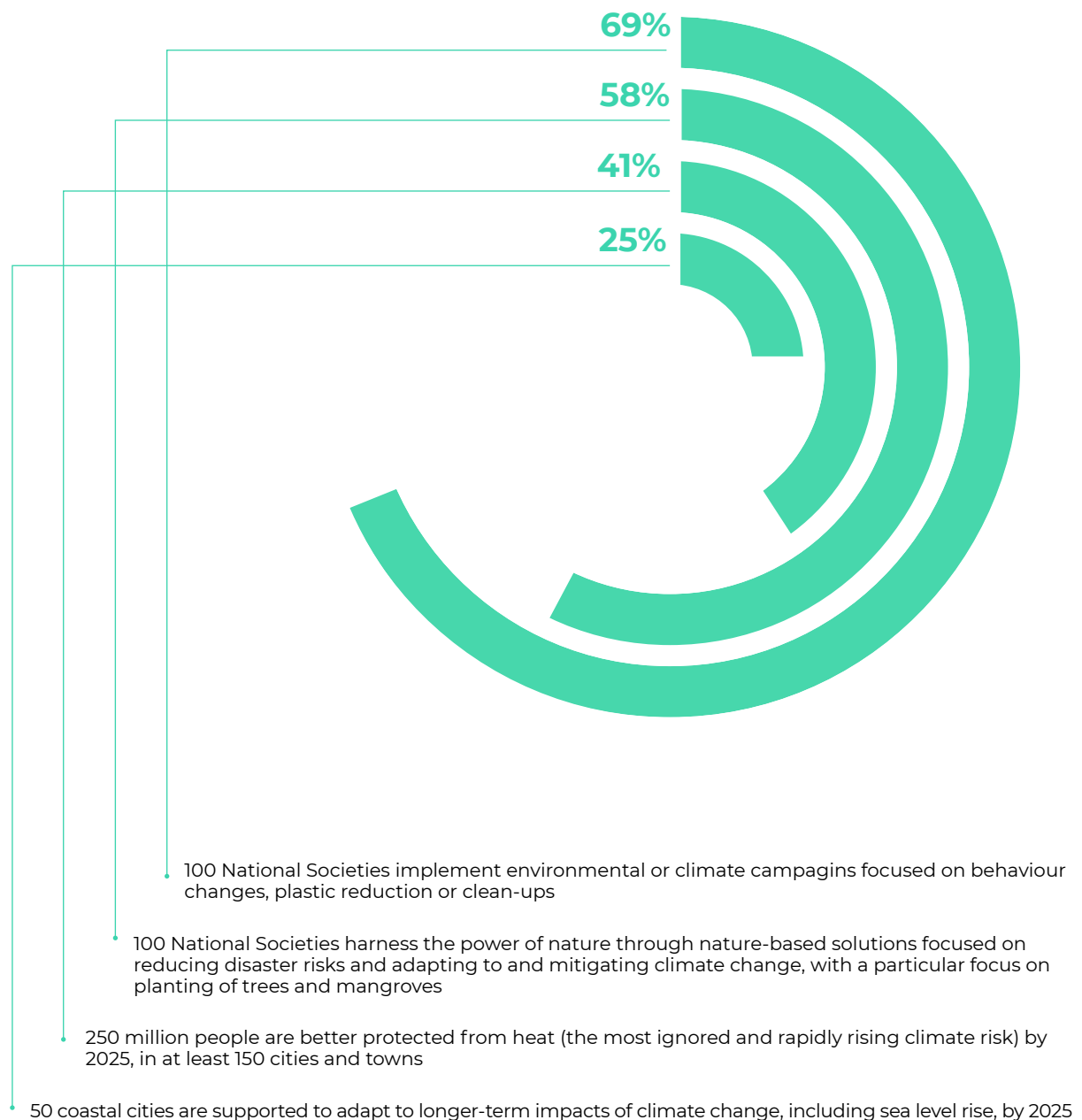




## IFRC Secretariat Plan and Budget 2021–2025

In its latest five-year plan and budget, the IFRC Secretariat set out four global flagship targets related to climate and environmental crises which are meant to be indicative of what the IFRC network wants to do more of. Of these four network-wide targets for 2025, the one National Societies foresee contributing to the most is implementing environmental or climate campaigns (69% of respondents), followed by nature-based solutions (58%). 41% of National Societies that responded foresee contributing to action to address heat-related risks, and 25% of National Societies are, or plan to be, involved in coastal cities work.

**Figure 3** Contributions to IFRC's 2025 targets related to climate and environment

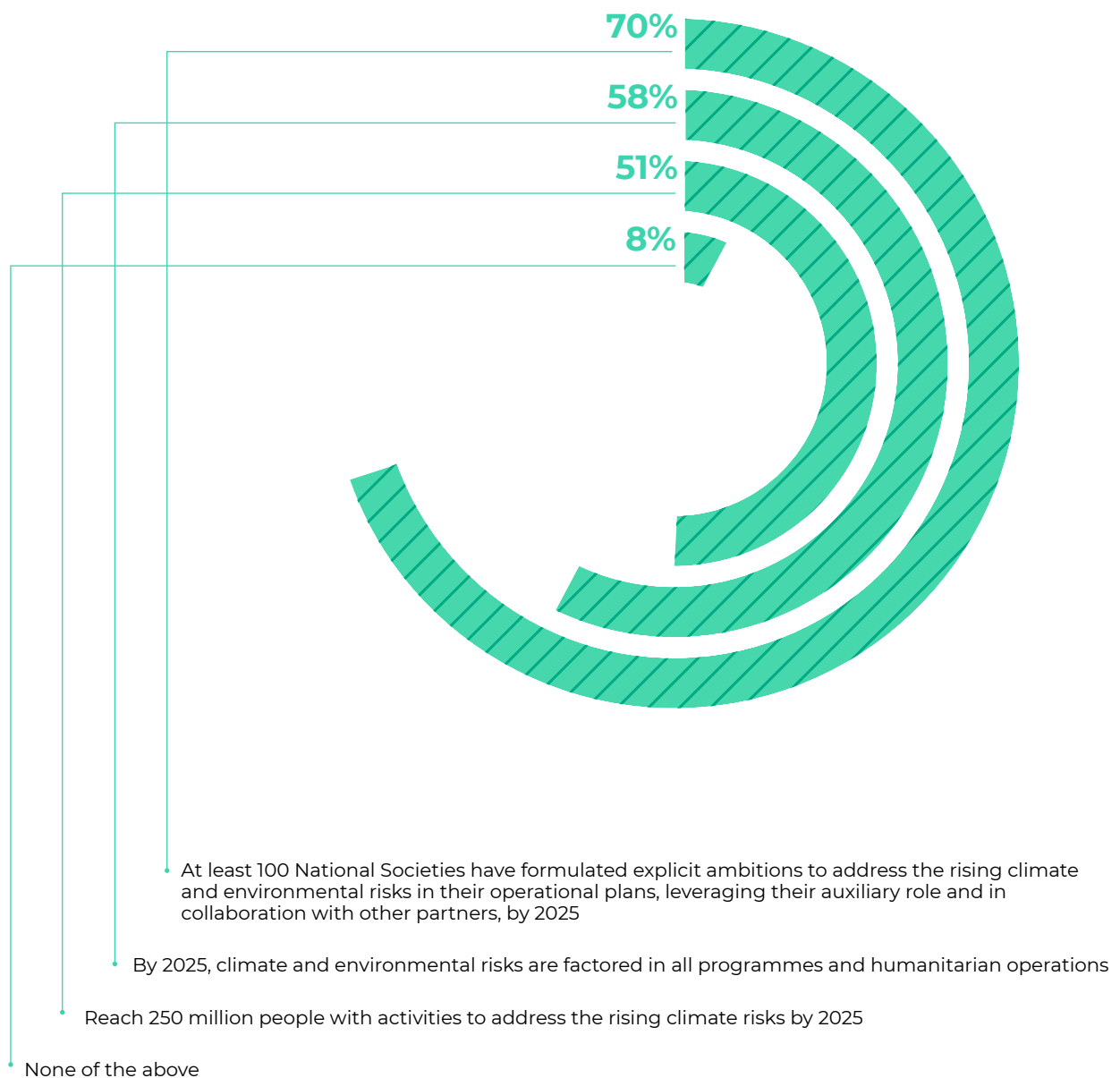


## Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations

Organizations that sign the Charter commit to developing and implementing their own targets. Upon launching the Charter, the IFRC Secretariat developed four targets for the IFRC network, drawing on the 2025 Plan and Budget and the Movement Ambitions.

70% of respondents (50 National Societies) indicated that they had contributed to the target of formulating explicit ambitions to address climate and environmental risks as part of their operational plans in 2021. At least half of the National Societies stated that they were contributing to the target of reaching 250 million people with climate action (51%) and more than half also stated that they were working to integrate climate and environment in all programmes and humanitarian operations (58%). Only a few National Societies stated that they were not contributing to any of IFRC's network-wide Charter targets.

**Figure 4** Contributions to IFRC's Climate and Environment Charter targets



“

**My National Society leverages the volunteer presence and network across Zimbabwe. With adequate international funding for adaptation interventions, we would be able to reach out to many vulnerable households through mass campaigns, awareness and promotion of climate smart agriculture interventions.**

Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

”





Zimbabwe 2020 Villagers help Zimbabwe Red Cross Society volunteers to prepare food items at a Red Cross food distribution in Zimbabwe.  
© Maija Tammi



## Other climate- and environment-related priorities

National Societies also indicated specific areas within global priorities that they are prioritizing.

Other priority climate and environment-related themes	No. of NS	%
Educating and supporting local authorities and community with adaptation	4	6%
Reduction of fossil fuels and promoting environmental sustainability	3	4%
NS engagement in global and national climate adaptation planning (UNFCCC processes, NDCs, NAPs)	2	3%
Participation in regional networks focusing on climate risks	2	3%
Addressing air pollution (particularly in major cities)	2	3%
Advocacy for compulsory household insurance schemes (to address social vulnerability of households)	1	1%
Climate change and COVID-19	1	1%
Incorporation of indigenous knowledge in climate change messaging	1	1%
Linking environmental indicators with livelihoods	1	1%
Mainstreaming forecast-based anticipatory action in all DRR programs	1	1%
NS strengthening to address climate risks	1	1%
Promotion of eco-friendly early warning systems	1	1%
Working in rural settings	1	1%
Working with youth	1	1%

# NATIONAL SOCIETIES' KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY TO CARRY OUT CLIMATE- AND ENVIRONMENT-RELATED WORK

## Climate knowledge and expertise

Overall, National Societies have at least some climate knowledge and expertise and more than half of National Societies feel that their staff and volunteers have somewhat strong general knowledge of climate change basics. The areas in which National Societies feel they are the strongest are the ability of technical staff to develop climate change related or targeted programmes and funding proposals (strong/very strong for 45%); ability of leadership to discuss climate change and the role played by the Red Cross Red Crescent (strong/very strong for 41%). On the other hand, the areas in which National Societies feel they would need to strengthen are their ability to advocate with authorities to strengthen climate law and policy (weak/very weak for 45%) and the quality of their relationships with relevant authorities and partners working on climate change (weak/very weak for 34%).



**Australia 2020** Red Cross staff member Jai O'Toole standing in burnt landscape. Extreme temperatures, dry conditions and winds combined to cause or escalate hundreds of bushfires across five Australian states. More than 10 million hectares of land were burned. More than 2,800 Red Cross personnel supported communities across Australia. © Aysha Leo / Australian Red Cross



The pie charts on page 17 look into each theme more closely.

In terms of **leadership knowledge and fluency in climate change**, as well as the **ability of technical staff to develop climate change-related programming and funding**, over 40% of National Societies that responded consider themselves strong to very strong. These are the areas where National Societies have the strongest capacity. See graphs 1 and 2.

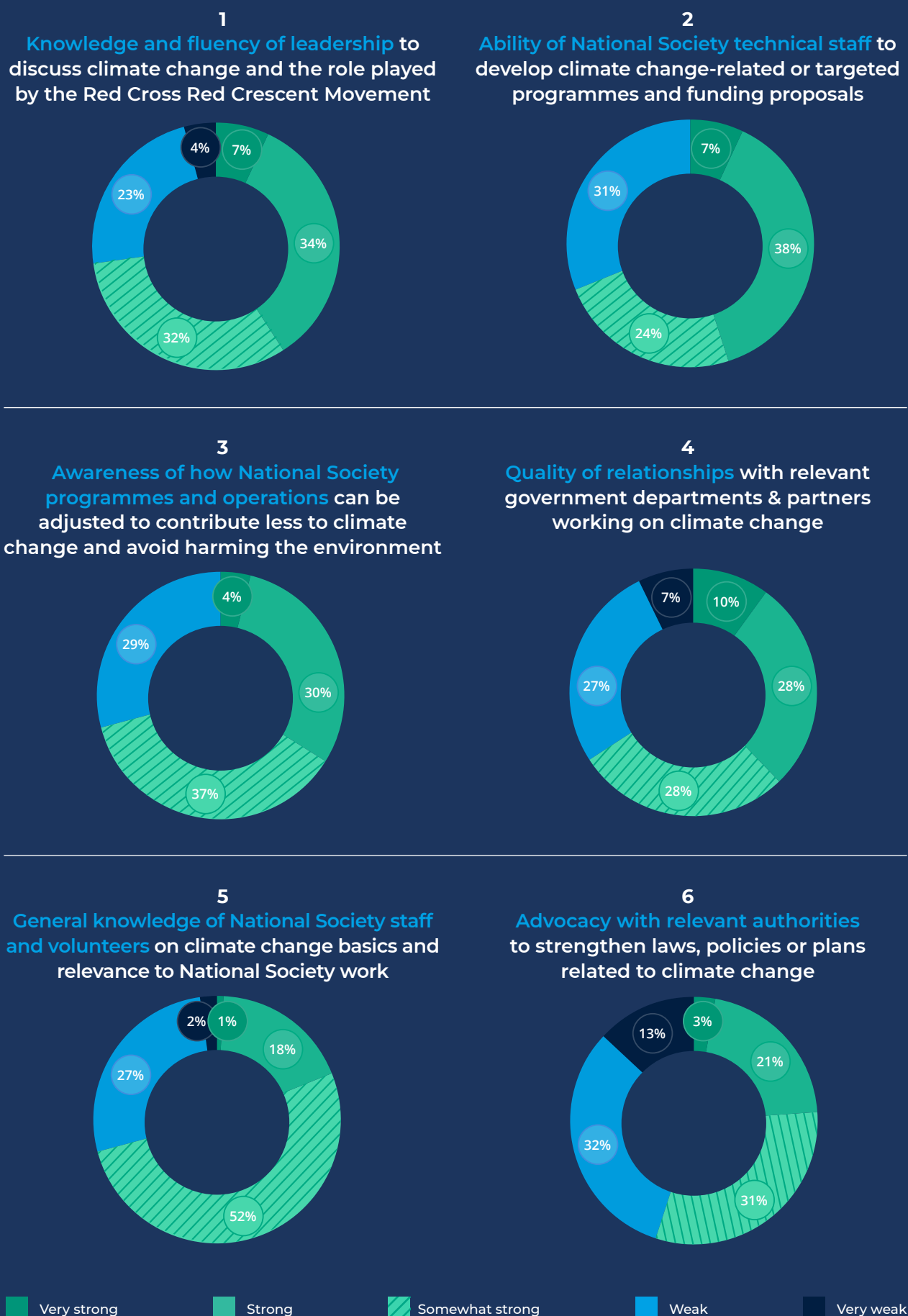
In terms of **quality of relationships with relevant government departments and institutions and other partners working on climate change**, as well as **awareness of how to green their programmes and operations**, at least 30% of National Societies consider themselves strong to very strong. While some National Societies are seen to have some capacity, about a third of respondents indicate they are weak to very weak in these areas. **Overall, National Societies have moderately strong capacity in these areas.** See graphs 3 and 4.

In terms of **National Society staff and volunteers' level of climate change knowledge**, only 19% of respondents consider themselves strong to very strong. 52% of National Societies are somewhat strong in this area, while 29% of respondents indicate they are weak to very weak in these areas. Finally, in terms of **advocacy with authorities on climate-related laws, policies and plans**, only 24% of National Societies consider themselves strong to very strong. A third of National Societies are seen to have some capacity, while nearly half of the respondents (45%) indicate they are weak to very weak in these areas. **These are the areas where National Societies have relatively lowest capacity.** See graphs 5 and 6.



**Turkey 2020** Flash floods in Turkey's Giresun province left many injured, some missing and at least 6 people dead. Floodwaters caused by unusually heavy rainfall dragged debris and vehicles along a road, leaving them buried in mud. Turkish Red Crescent emergency teams participated in search and rescue and distributed hot meals and hygiene kits to those affected. © Turkish Red Crescent

**Figure 5** Trends in National Societies' climate knowledge and expertise









“

**Currently, the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society is focusing on empowering local communities to act on their own to face climate change. SLRCS has already developed a strategy to engage communities in protecting mangrove vegetation of coastal lines as a disaster risk reduction mechanism.**

Sri Lanka Red Cross Society

”

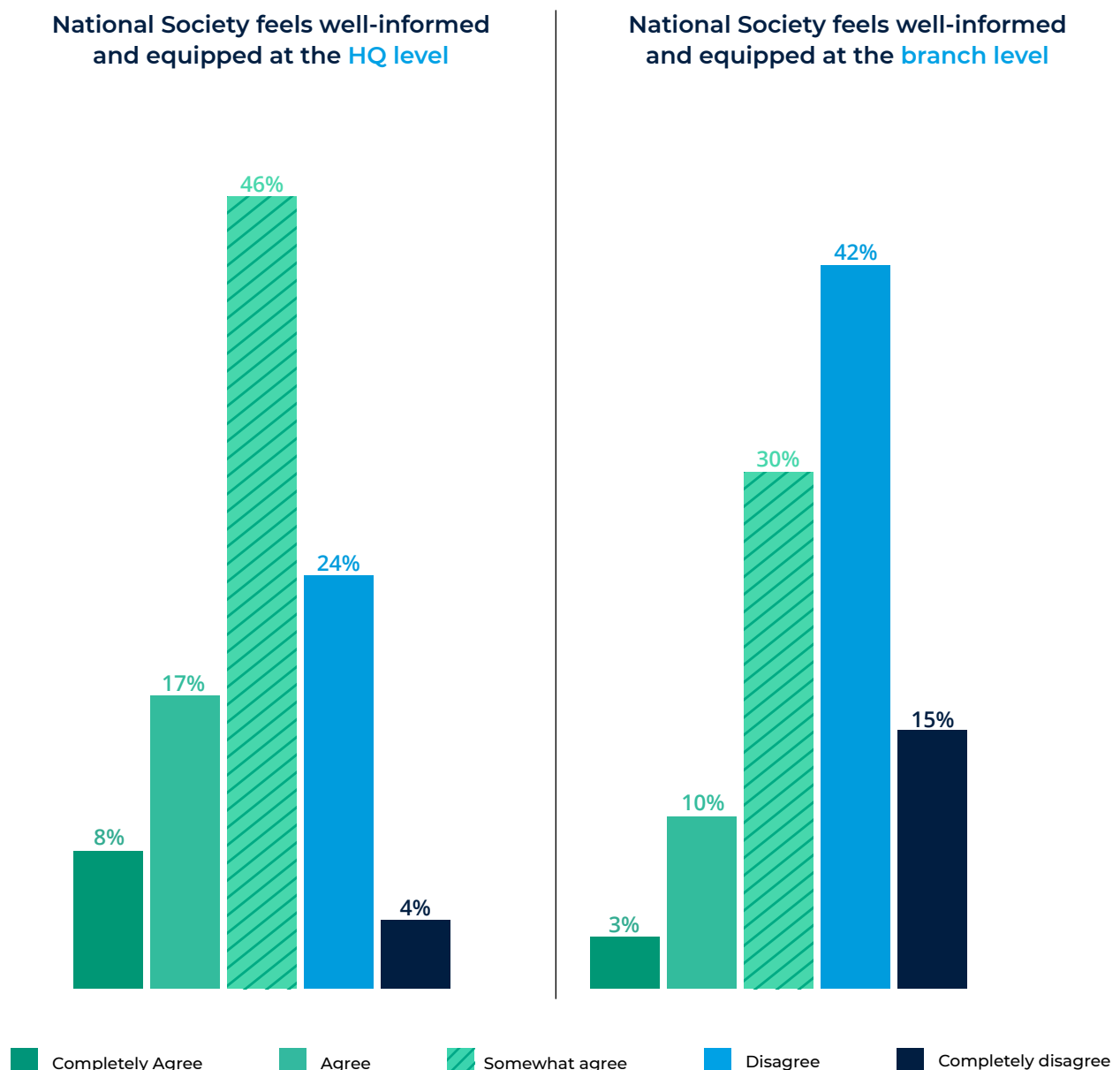
## Programming and operations

### Integrating climate change considerations into programming and operations

**At the capital/HQ level**, only 25% of the National Societies feel that they are well-informed and equipped to integrate climate change considerations into their plans, programmes and operations. 46% of National Societies feel only somewhat well equipped, while 28% do not feel well equipped.

**At the branch level**, the number is much lower, with only 13% of National Societies feeling that they are well-informed and equipped to integrate climate change considerations into their plans, programmes and operations. 30% of National Societies feel only somewhat equipped, while a significant number (57%) do not feel equipped.

**Figure 6** Capacity to integrate climate change considerations in plans, programmes and operations

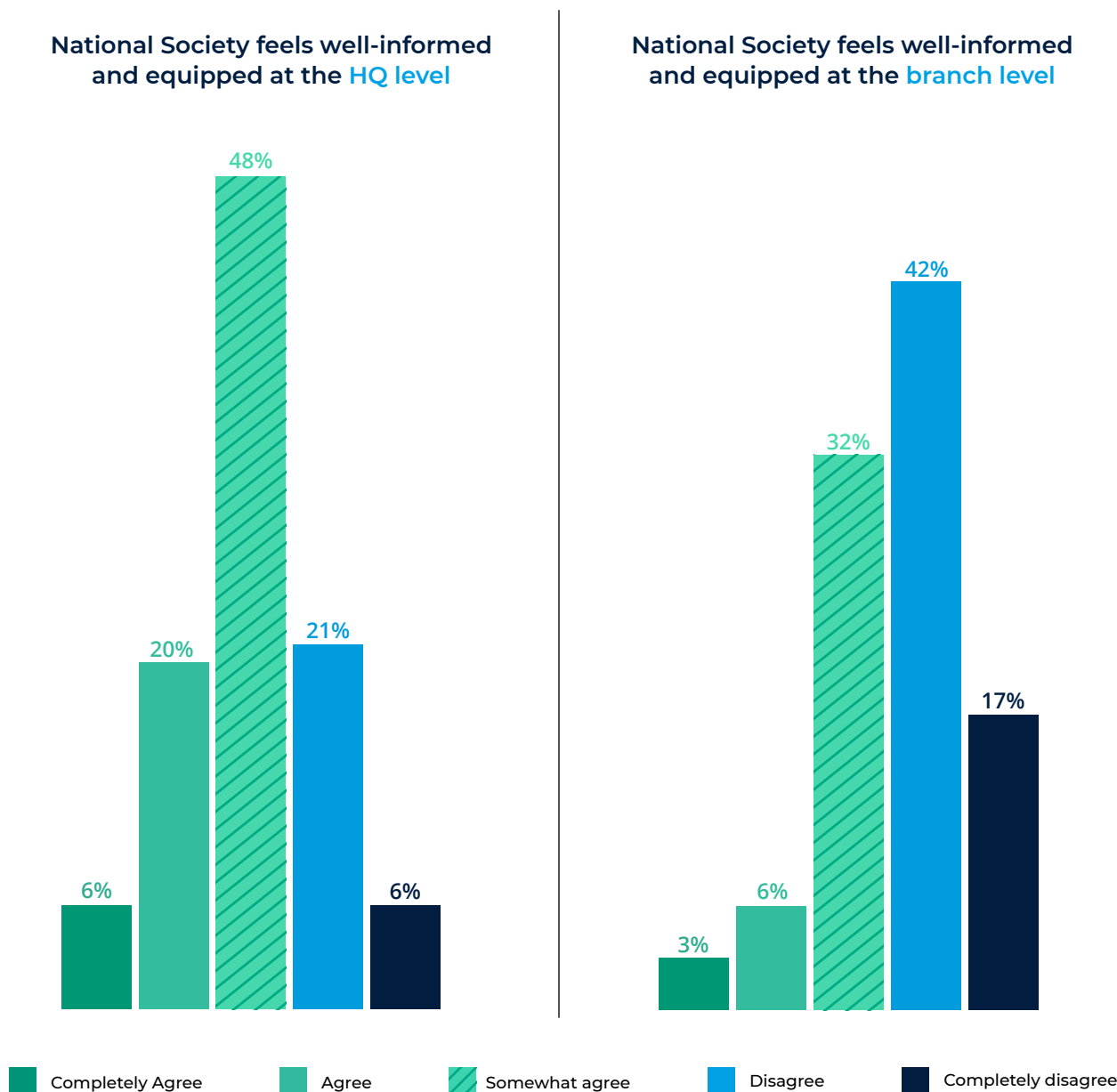


## Integrating environmental sustainability considerations into programming and operations

**At the capital/HQ level**, only 26% of National Societies feel that they are well-informed and equipped to integrate environmental sustainability into their plans, programmes and operations. 48% of National Societies feel only somewhat equipped, while 27% do not feel well equipped.

**At the branch level**, this number is much lower, with only 9% of National Societies feeling that they are well-informed and equipped to integrate environmental sustainability into their plans, programmes and operations. 32% of National Societies feel only somewhat equipped at the branch level, while a significant number (59%) do not feel equipped.

**Figure 7** Capacity to integrate environmental sustainability considerations in plans, programmes and operations



There is a similar trend between the two areas of work (climate change and environmental sustainability), which points to a disparity between the HQ and branch levels. **Despite the relatively low level of awareness and expertise at the HQ level, branch levels are facing particular capacity gaps, which is a key consideration in terms of IFRC's overall ambition to ensure people-centred climate action in "first mile"/"last mile" communities.**

In addition, while HQ-level knowledge related to climate change and environmental sustainability are nearly the same, at the branch level this is not the case, with branches feeling slightly more equipped regarding climate change compared to environmental sustainability.



**Trinidad and Tobago 2020** A Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross started a Garden to Kitchen project to help improve food security amidst COVID-19.  
© Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society



“

**Funding would enable us to develop a 5-year strategic and operational plan to guide the specific work of the TTRCS in climate change. This will help us chart the way forward as well as have specific objectives to seek funding.**

”

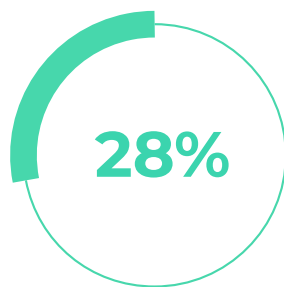
Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society

## Climate finance

National Societies indicate that, in the last two years, they have had **limited access to climate finance, specifically for adaptation**, with government funding reaching only 10% of National Societies that responded, and international funding reaching only 28%.

**Figure 8** Climate change adaptation funding received in the last two years

Received **international funding** specifically for climate change adaption



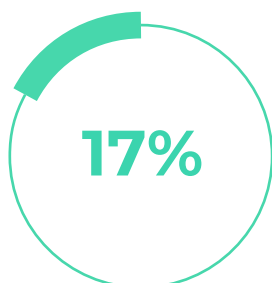
Received **funding from its government** specifically for climate change adaption



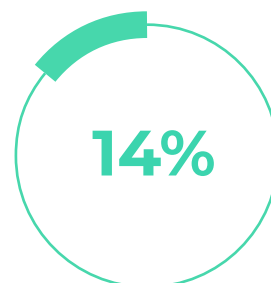
**At least 80% of National Societies indicate that they currently do not have adequate funding** to carry out their work in supporting climate change adaptation as well as to integrate environmental sustainability into their programmes and operations.

**Figure 9** Access to adequate funding to carry out climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability work

Currently has access to adequate funding to **reach its potential in supporting climate change adaption**



Currently has access to adequate funding to **integrate environmental sustainability into it's programmes and operations**



Most National Societies that responded say they lack access to adequate funding. If they did have sufficient funding, National Societies stated that they could achieve the following:

1. **Develop multi-year strategic and operational plan** to guide specific climate-related work and integrate environmental sustainability into programmes and operations.
2. **Train staff and volunteers** to provide them with sufficient knowledge on different aspects on climate change adaptation.
3. **Implement relevant initiatives** to increase climate change awareness and knowledge at the community level and across sectors they work with.
4. **Transition the National Society's internal operations** to become more environmentally sustainable, including reducing its carbon footprint and using renewable energy.
5. **Enhance collaboration with partners and stakeholders**, including with local leaders and youth, to implement climate action.



**Germany 2020** German Red Cross mission after heavy rains caused severe flooding in the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate. Volunteers talking to residents on a muddy street in Ahrweiler. © Philipp Köhler / German Red Cross

“

**Ukrainian Red Cross Society lacks experience in integration of environmental sustainability into its programmes, so with the expanded funding we would be able to invest in education of technical staff and leadership in terms of the Movement experience in this sphere.**

Ukrainian Red Cross Society

”





**Ukraine 2018** Volunteers of the Red Cross planted a vegetable garden.  
© Ukrainian Red Cross Society



# SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT NEEDED TO ADVANCE CLIMATE WORK

National Societies indicate the **highest need for training** (90%), for example on the basics of climate change, potential role of National Societies in climate action, climate-smart programming and advocacy skills. This is followed by the need for **peer-to-peer learning and exchange** with other National Societies (86%), and **support to National Society leadership** to engage in climate- and environment-related opportunities with partners and government, leveraging on their auxiliary role (82%).

In addition, National Societies indicated specific support is needed in the following areas:

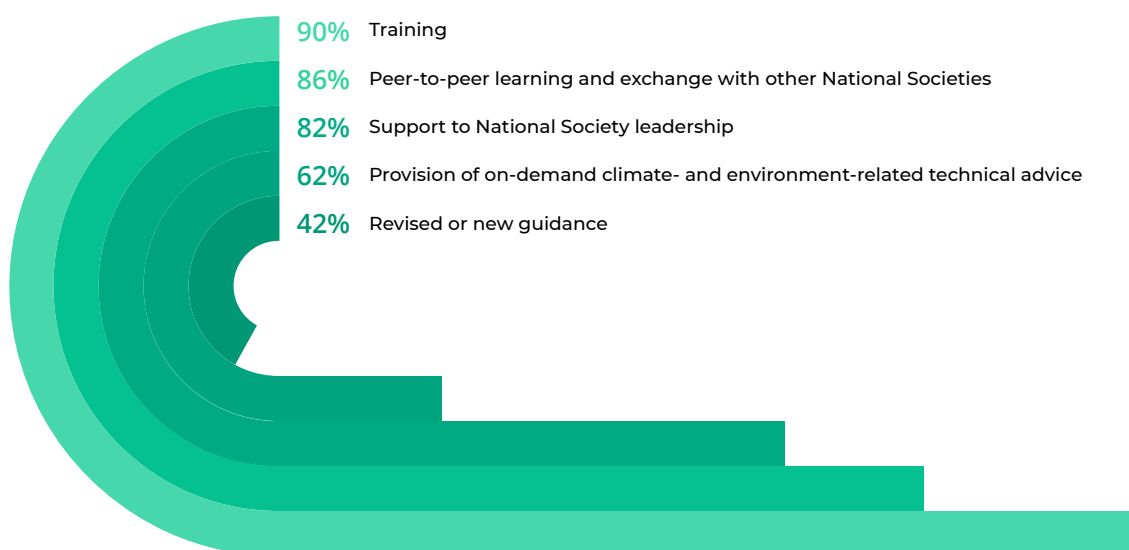
- **Training** on climate change adaptation, advocacy skills and mainstreaming environmental sustainability, including linking climate and health, and multilingual training for volunteers
- **Financing** for climate change programmes
- **Funding** for climate change focal persons, including focal points to participate in the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP)
- **Guidance** on reducing carbon footprint from National Society operations
- **Methodologies** and teaching-learning techniques in climate change, including support in the dissemination of global and regional guidelines in addressing the climate crisis, and its relationship with our humanitarian work

Most National Societies are interested in joining Movement-wide discussions, leadership platforms and coordination fora on climate change at all levels (leadership, technical, regional, research and innovation), and particularly at the technical and regional levels.

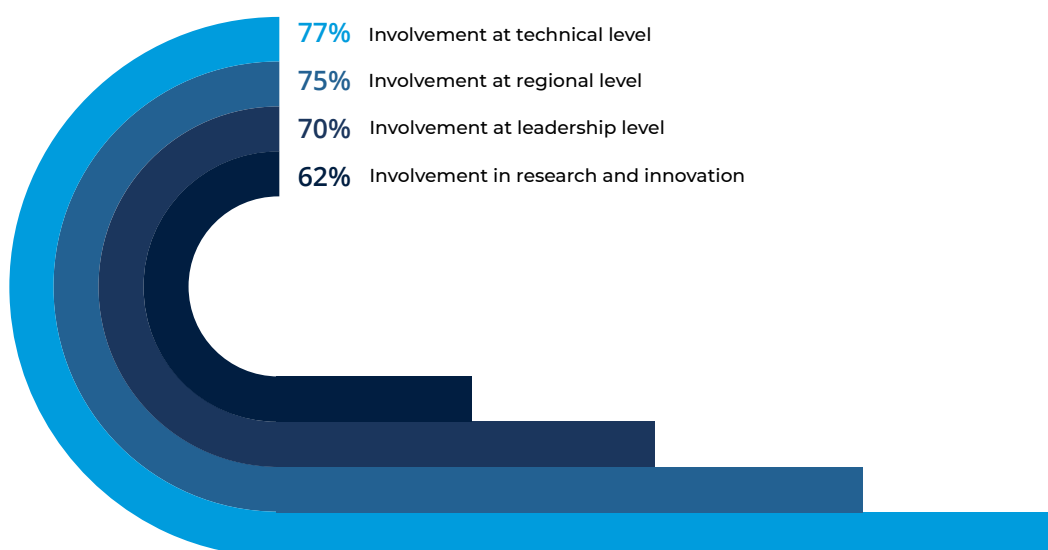


*Iran 2022 Drought has brought widespread reliance on water trucking and bottled water for drinking. Iranian Red Crescent works with the communities to provide them with safe water, and distributing hot meals and hygiene kits to those affected. © Iranian Red Crescent Society*

**Figure 10** Support needed to advance on IFRC ambitions and targets on climate change



**Figure 11** Interest in being involved in Movement-wide discussions and coordination change





**Somalia 2017** Drought left more than 6 million people facing food shortages with water supplies becoming undrinkable due to potential infection. A man digs a well in a dry riverbed to find water.

© IFRC









# CONCLUSIONS

Many National Societies have been engaged in dedicated climate change initiatives, especially since the establishment of the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre in 2002. For instance, in 2005, over 60 National Societies invested in national climate risk assessments, communication campaigns and action plans. Since 2010, targeted programmes on resilience and anticipatory action have been rolled out in more than 40 countries, with strong emphasis on understanding, addressing and advocating for climate change adaptation and resilience.

According to the 2021 survey results, National Societies around the world are implementing, or planning to implement, climate action. Overall, National Societies that responded to the survey are putting high priority on scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, preparedness and anticipatory/early action as focus areas. Reducing the health impacts of climate change is National Societies' second priority (Fig. 1). This is not surprising given the context in the last two years with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the growing attention to the health and climate nexus. To date, National Societies have had lower engagement in climate displacement (Fig. 1), heat action in cities and towns, as well as adaptation work in coastal cities (Fig. 3).

The survey demonstrated that National Societies consider increasing public awareness and mobilization, as well as strengthening National Societies' expertise and volunteer base, higher priorities than engagement with governments on relevant laws and policies (Fig. 2). This order of priorities is consistent with the fact that the majority of National Societies are implementing climate and environmental campaigns – thus the need for strong internal capacities and active involvement of volunteers (Fig. 3). Given National Societies' role as auxiliary to their governments in the humanitarian field, and that influencing relevant national laws, policies and plans can provide a critical enabling environment and backbone to reducing climate-related risks, it is worth exploring further how to support National Societies in their engagements with departments and institutions that work on climate, and equip them to effectively engage with their government.

The majority of National Societies have indicated that they have formulated/are formulating their climate ambitions, and more than half of the respondents are working on incorporating climate and environmental risks in all their programmes and operations (Fig. 4). However, the caveat is that National Societies feel they are not always well-informed and equipped to integrate climate change and environmental sustainability considerations into their plans, programmes and operations (Fig. 12 and 13). Further, despite the relatively higher level of awareness and expertise at the HQ level, branch levels are consistently reporting lower levels of capacity. This points to the need to improve knowledge of National Society staff and volunteers on climate change (Fig. 10) and environmental sustainability, especially at the local/branch level. Indeed, training is the number one request from National Societies.

Finally, funding for National Societies to undertake climate action is lacking. There has been very limited access to climate finance for adaptation in the last two years (Fig. 13). National Societies noted that sufficient funding would have enabled them to develop multi-year strategic and operational plans, mainstream climate and environmental sustainability into their programmes and operations, conduct more trainings for staff and volunteers, scale up their climate and environment programming, and strengthen their partnerships. These are critical areas for support in the coming years.

The IFRC Secretariat and Climate Centre have been working to address the aforementioned issues and support needs. IFRC has been working to enhance awareness and mobilization related to climate change, including through the publication and promotion of reports highlighting climate change impacts and the important role of humanitarian actors and National Societies, such as the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#), [World Disasters Report 2020](#), [Climate:Red Summit](#) and [Cost of Doing Nothing 2019](#), and communications campaigns such as Faces of Climate Change and Climate Changed Me. A range of awareness raising material has been produced related to climate action, including anticipatory



action and nature-based solutions. As a key audience for action within communities, youth has been a priority, with the first youth-led Global RCRC Climate and Youth Summit hosted in 2021 and launch of the Red Cross Red Crescent Strategy on Youth-led Climate Action to provide inspiration and direction for the RCRC youth to take meaningful climate action.

Strengthening of National Societies' expertise and capacity related to the climate and environmental crises is being done through webinars and trainings (related to vulnerability and capacity assessments, forecast-based financing, nature-based solutions and climate finance, for example), peer-to-peer exchanges (including regional fora such as the Africa Climate Fellowship and global fora such as the Planet:Red Summit and Global and Regional Dialogue Platforms on Anticipatory Action) and the dissemination of guidance. Where gaps are identified, new guidance is being developed – such as the recently launched Urban Action Kit and Global Training Toolkit on Climate-related Displacement, and forthcoming Nature Navigator on nature-based solutions and enhanced guidance on climate-smart programming and operations. In addition, the Climate Centre and IFRC Secretariat are providing technical support and accompaniment to National Societies at regional and national levels. The Africa Climate Fellowship has been a great example of the targeted regional trainings that foster peer to peer support and exchange between individuals from different National Societies. However, the survey results demonstrate the need to increase capacity strengthening opportunities, reaching Branch levels and tailored towards specific National Society needs and contexts.

The IFRC Secretariat has also been working to increase National Societies' access to funding to undertake climate action. In September 2021, the IFRC Secretariat initiated a process to develop a multi-regional, multi-year Climate Action Case for Support to mobilize resources and significantly enhance existing climate initiatives of more than 80 National Societies, with the goal of increasing community resilience to the impacts of climate change. The case for support will provide an overview at the global and regional levels of the programmatic approach and will focus on the most climate vulnerable countries where National Societies have committed to scaling up their climate action. Over time, the Case for Support will be expanded to additional countries as part of a broader climate financing platform. In addition, mapping and analysis of climate finance opportunities that are available to the IFRC network, including National Societies, has been undertaken and will be used to inform a climate finance strategy. Since 2020, progress has also been made in engaging in the development and implementation of large multi-lateral investments, notably from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative and will continue to be leveraged.

The results of the survey demonstrate that the IFRC network has enormous potential and ambition to drive climate action and focus now needs to be placed on supporting National Societies to develop and implement climate and environment activities as an integral part of their organization-wide strategies and plans. The IFRC Secretariat and Climate Centre will continue to strengthen and adjust their support based on needs and demands from National Societies.

# TECHNICAL ANNEX

## Good practice examples from National Societies

### Montenegro

In 2010 and 2011, through an EU funded project, the Red Cross of Montenegro (RCM) was able to establish a network of Civil Society Organizations, NGOs, companies and governmental institutions who were working on climate change adaptation in Montenegro. One of the results of the project was the creation of the National Study on Climate Change Vulnerabilities in Montenegro. The work on the project also fostered better cooperation with relevant stakeholders working on climate change and subsequently led to participation in different working groups related to climate change, established by Governmental institutions. As an example, at the moment, the Red Cross representative is the member of the working group in charge of the creation of national risk assessment document, established by the Ministry of Interior - Rescue and Protection Directorate, specifically for climate change. Furthermore, the RCM, as part of the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance (the Alliance), is implementing since 2018 a five-year programme whose main goal is to strengthen communities' resilience to flooding. After assessing the situation in the communities in terms of their strengths and weakness using the Alliance's Flood Resilience Community Measurement Tool, the RCM and its partners started implementing different types of measures that increase communities' resilience to flooding. This ranges from public awareness and public education activities to concrete structural measures such as the repair and enhancement of a flood protection wall. Ahead of COP26, RCM also made key recommendations to the government of Montenegro related to climate change. In 2021, RCM signed the Climate and Environment Charter.

### Armenia

Although the Armenian Red Cross Society (ARCS) has many years of experience in disaster risk reduction, it started its active engagement with climate change adaptation in 2013 with the first stage of the [Climate Forum East Project](#). As part of 'Climate Forum East I', Armenia developed a national network of civil society organizations, academic institutions and government ministries working on climate change, the "Armenian climate forum" network (ACF). In 2015, ARCS started implementation of the 'Climate Forum East II' project, with the aim to sustain and support ACF and strengthen the capacities of the network and its members to contribute to national and local policy making processes, public awareness raising, and education on climate change and environmental governance in the Eastern Neighborhood Region. The key elements of the project included provision of sub-grants to ACF member organizations to enhance their capacities and relationship with relevant stakeholders.

### Japan

In 2021, the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) signed an agreement with Toyota Motor Corporation for the demonstration testing of the world's first fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) mobile clinic that uses hydrogen to generate electricity. The partnership aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of commercial FCEV in areas of medicine and disaster countermeasures. By building an operational model of an FCEV mobile clinic for use during normal times and times of disaster, this initiative will also contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

## Spain

The Spanish Red Cross has embarked on a process to monitor and reduce its carbon footprint. The National Society developed an emissions reduction plan and is implementing programmes to reduce and improve home energy use as part of their work with vulnerable communities. It also developed a carbon off-setting plan through reforestation.

## Myanmar

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), with the support of external experts from the Mangrove Service Network, designed and implemented a set of activities to promote and facilitate the use of improved cooking stoves (ICS) in Man-aung island in Rakhine State. The use of ICS has provided environmental benefits (less smoke, less cooking time, reduced firewood use and reduced risk of fire outbreak) as well as economic opportunities to the local communities who are engaged as part of the value chain. This approach increases the project's sustainability. In a few months, the use of ICS spread quickly across the villages.

## Jamaica

The Resilient Islands project, funded by the German Government (BMUB IKI), has been implemented by the National Societies in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Grenada in partnership with IFRC and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to enhance climate change adaptation through the implementation nature-based solutions (NbS), actions to protect, sustainably manage or restore ecosystems that can address climate change and reduce disaster risk. In Jamaica, the project has applied rapid ecological assessments alongside IFRC's Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) methodology to assess and plan for NbS such as ridge-to-reef approaches (combining watershed restoration upstream with mangrove restoration in downstream coastal areas) and living breakwaters that increase livelihood resilience while providing protection from storm surges and floods. The work has been done in close collaboration and partnership with local communities, civil society organizations, local government, national government, and environmental experts. This approach to NbS is now being piloted in other parts of Jamaica (including through IFRC's new USAID-supported NbS project) and is being used as an inspiration for similar approaches by other National Societies (e.g. Philippines). More info is available [here](#).

## Mozambique

In November 2020, IFRC allocated funding from its [Forecast-based Action by the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund](#) (FbA by the DREF), a dedicated funding mechanism that helps National Societies take early action before disasters strike in order to save lives and reduce, or prevent, disaster impacts on communities. This funding was split between an allocation for readiness and pre-positioning and an allocation to implement specified early actions once the pre-agreed crisis 'triggers' were met. To operationalize the allocation, the Mozambique Red Cross Society developed an Early Action Protocol (EAP) of five years for flood events. The early actions identified in the EAP will reduce the impacts of floods, benefitting up to 7,500 people in vulnerable



## List of respondents

	National Society
<b>AFRICA</b>	
1	Botswana Red Cross
2	Croix Rouge Camerounaise
3	Croix Rouge Togolaise
4	Ghana Red Cross
5	Mauritius Red Cross
6	Namibia Red Cross
7	Red Cross of Seychelles
8	South African Red Cross
9	Uganda Red Cross
10	Zambia Red Cross
11	Zimbabwe Red Cross
<b>AMERICAS</b>	
1	American Red Cross
2	Bahamas Red Cross
3	Costa Rican Red Cross
4	Cruz Roja Argentina
5	Cruz Roja Chilena
6	Cruz Roja Colombiana
7	Cruz Roja Guatemala
8	Cruz Roja Peruana
9	Dominica Red Cross
10	Grenada Red Cross
11	Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross
<b>ASIA PACIFIC</b>	
1	Cambodian Red Cross
2	Japanese Red Cross
3	Maldivian Red Crescent
4	Myanmar Red Cross
5	New Zealand Red Cross
6	Pakistan Red Crescent
7	Papua New Guinea Red Cross
8	Sri Lanka Red Cross
9	Vanuatu Red Cross

	National Society
<b>EUROPE</b>	
1	Armenian Red Cross
2	Belarus Red Cross
3	Bulgarian Red Cross
4	Croatian Red Cross
5	Croix-Rouge Française
6	Croix-Rouge Monégasque
7	Cruz Roja Espanola
8	Cyprus Red Cross
9	Hellenic Red Cross
10	Hungarian Red Cross
11	Icelandic Red Cross
12	Irish Red Cross
13	Italian Red Cross
14	Nederlandse Rode Kruis
15	Polish Red Cross
16	Portuguese Red Cross
17	Red Crescent of Kyrgyzstan
18	Red Cross of Montenegro
19	Red Cross of Serbia
20	Slovenian Red Cross
21	Ukrainian Red Cross
<b>MENA</b>	
1	Bahrain Red Crescent
2	Egyptian Red Crescent
3	Iraqi Red Crescent
4	Jordan Red Crescent
5	Kuwait Red Crescent
6	Lebanese Red Cross
7	Libyan Red Crescent
8	Moroccan Red Crescent
9	Palestine Red Crescent
10	Qatar Red Crescent
11	Red Crescent of Islamic Republic of Iran
12	Saudi Red Crescent
13	Syrian Arab Red Crescent
14	Tunisian Red Crescent
15	Yemen Red Crescent

## List of questions

1. **National Society:**
2. **Name:**
3. **Role:**
4. **Email Address:**
5. **What do you see as your National Society's biggest priorities from the below pillars of action from the Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis (Rate in order of priority, with 1 being the highest priority and 5 the lowest):**
  - a. Scale up climate-smart disaster risk reduction (including nature-based solutions) and/or scale up preparedness and anticipatory/early action (including forecast-based financing, contributing to early warnings systems)
  - b. Reduce the health impacts of climate change
  - c. Address climate displacement
  - d. Enable climate-resilient livelihoods and services and sustainable water resource management
  - e. Reduce your own carbon and environmental footprint
6. **What do you see as your National Society's biggest priorities from the enabling approaches from the Movement Ambitions to Address the Climate Crisis (Rate in order of priority, with 1 being the highest priority and 4 the lowest):**
  - a. Increase understanding of the climate crisis amongst the public and communities you work with, and mobilize positive action (including conducting communications campaigns related to the climate and environmental crises)
  - b. Influence investments, laws, policies, plans and practices and engage with your government in climate change related policy processes
  - c. Strengthen your National Society's expertise and volunteer base to reduce the impacts of the climate crisis
7. **Which of IFRC's 2025 targets related to the climate and environmental crises do you foresee your National Society making a contribution to? (Select all those that apply)**
  - a. 250 million people are better protected from heat (the most ignored and rapidly rising climate risk) by 2025, in at least 150 cities and towns.
  - b. 50 coastal cities are supported to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, by 2025.
  - c. 100 National Societies harness the power of nature through nature-based solutions focused on reducing disaster risks and adapting to and mitigating climate change, with a particular focus on planting of trees and mangroves.
  - d. 100 National Societies implement environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups.
  - e. None of the above

**8. Which of IFRC's network-wide targets related to the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations is your National Society contributing to in 2021?**

- a. Reach 250 million people with activities to address the rising climate risks by 2025.
- a. By 2025, climate and environmental risks are factored in all programmes and humanitarian operations.
- b. At least 100 National Societies have formulated explicit ambitions to address the rising climate and environmental risks in their operational plans, leveraging their auxiliary role and in collaboration with other partners, by 2025.
- c. None of the above

**9. Are there other climate and environment-related themes not addressed above which you prioritise?**

**10. Please rate your agreement with the following statements on the following scale: 1=completely disagree, 5=fully agree**

- a. My NS is well-informed and equipped **at the HQ level to integrate climate change considerations** into its plans, programmes and operations.
- b. My NS is well-informed and equipped **at the branch level to integrate climate change considerations** into its plans, programmes and operations.
- c. My NS is well-informed and equipped **at the HQ level to integrate environmental sustainability** into its plans, programmes and operations.
- d. My NS is well-informed and equipped **at the branch level to integrate environmental sustainability** into its plans, programmes and operations.

**11. Would you consider your National Society strong or weak in the following areas? (Please rate from 1-5, 1=this is an area of significant weakness for my NS, 5= this is an area of significant strength for my NS)**

- a. Knowledge and fluency of leadership to discuss climate change and the role played by the RCRC Movement (and your specific NS) with government and other stakeholders
- b. Ability of your National Society's technical staff to develop climate change related or targeted programmes and funding proposals
- c. General knowledge of your National Society's staff and volunteers on the 'basics' of climate change and how it is relevant to the work of your National Society
- d. Quality of relationships with relevant government departments, institutions or other partners working on or responsible for addressing climate change
- e. Awareness of how your National Society programmes and operations can be adjusted to contribute less to climate change and avoid harming the environment
- f. Advocacy with relevant authorities to strengthen laws, policies or plans related to climate change



- 12. What kind of support does your National Society need most to advance on the IFRC ambitions and targets on climate change? (Select all those that apply)**
- a. Training (please specify the topics e.g. basics of climate change, potential role of National Societies, making our efforts climate-smart, advocacy skills)
  - b. Revised or new guidance (please explain what areas you feel are missing guidance)
  - c. Peer-to-peer learning and exchange with other National Societies
  - d. Support to National Society leadership to engage in climate- and environment-related opportunities with partners and government, leveraging on their auxiliary role
  - e. Provision of on-demand climate- and environment-related technical advice
  - f. None
  - g. Other (please explain in comment)
- 13. Moving forward, would your National Society be interested in being involved in Movement-wide discussions, leadership platforms and coordination on climate change (Multiple answers possible):**
- a. Yes, at the leadership level
  - b. Yes, at the technical level
  - c. Yes, at the regional level
  - d. Yes, in terms of research and innovation
  - e. No
  - f. Other
- 14. Please answer the following questions about funding by yes or no:**
- a. My NS has received **international** funding specifically for its work in climate change adaptation in the last two years.
  - b. My NS has received funding from its **government** specifically for its work in climate change adaptation in the last two years.
  - c. My NS currently has access to adequate funding to **reach its potential** in supporting climate change adaptation.
  - d. My NS currently has access to adequate funding to carry out the steps that are necessary to **integrate environmental sustainability** into its programmes and operations
- 15. If you answered that your NS lacks access to adequate funding in the question above, please briefly describe what it could achieve if it did have sufficient funding access:**
- 16. Do you have any good practices, suggestions or additional comments to share?**



**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.