



JAMAICA RED CROSS HURRICANE MELISSA RECOVERY STRATEGY

REBUILDING FUTURES, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES



A message from the JRC President

The passage of Hurricane Melissa stands as a sobering reminder of the evolving realities we face as a nation. Jamaica's geographic location, coupled with changing climate patterns, continues to expose us to increasingly intense and unpredictable storms. These events test not only our infrastructure, but also the resilience, unity, and spirit of our people.



In the face of such adversity, the Jamaica Red Cross remains firmly guided by the tenets of humanity, inclusion, and resilience. We have crafted this Recovery Strategy not simply to restore, but to reimagine recovery — one that builds safer homes, stronger livelihoods, and more connected, prepared communities. Central to this effort is our alignment with the Government's national recovery agenda, ensuring that our work contributes meaningfully to a unified, forward-looking national response.

We do not stand alone in this work. The progress made since Hurricane Melissa is a testament to the power of partnership — across Government, the private sector, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the Jamaican diaspora. We extend our sincere appreciation and, importantly, an invitation: to deepen collaboration, to forge new alliances, and to work in greater synergy as we move from recovery to resilience.

The Jamaica Red Cross is looking ahead with purpose. We are strengthening our own systems, investing in our volunteers and branches, and reinforcing the role we play as a trusted humanitarian partner. Our vision is clear: stronger institutions, empowered communities, and a Jamaica better prepared for what lies ahead. We remain committed, capable, and ready to serve.

Allasandra "Sandy" Chung, O.D.

President

Jamaica Red Cross

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Executive Summary

The immediate impact of Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane Melissa was extremely powerful: the strongest ever to make landfall in Jamaica. Despite preparations, when it made landfall there were deaths and many injuries: buildings and houses were damaged and destroyed, infrastructure collapsed and utilities failed. As the storm passed over, new and different effects compounded the crisis: psychosocial impacts, the loss of livelihoods, and an outbreak of leptospirosis leading to more deaths. The consequences are still felt by households throughout the west of the country to the current day.

The justification for a comprehensive recovery programme

It's not sufficient to simply replace what has been lost, or to meet the immediate needs. Houses need to be replaced but they need to be stronger and safer. Vulnerabilities exposed at household and community level need to be addressed: community resilience, build back safer, risk reduction, and climate-smart livelihoods all prioritised.

Likewise, institutional vulnerabilities can now be identified and need to be tackled. We must ensure a stronger JRC, swift to act, with strong branches and well-trained volunteers, well prepared and aligned with national priorities.

Finally, vulnerabilities were exposed within the humanitarian system. Jamaica Red Cross plays an important part in this system, and renews its commitment to doing so, to supporting and participating in coordination mechanisms.

JRC's programmatic responses

From a programmatic perspective, JRC will continue to prioritise community resilience as a core approach, recruiting and training volunteers, building teams for preparedness and response, and working in coordination with local authorities and actors.

JRC is already working in the shelter sector, moving from distributions of tarpaulins and essential household items towards identifying and training masons and carpenters and supporting the safe replacement of damaged and destroyed roofs.

In mental health and psychosocial support, JRC is providing wide support across the affected areas complementary to the other activities, working with children and adults. In health, support is planned to help to rehabilitate damaged health centres.

In livelihoods JRC has prioritised three sectors; fishers, farmers and owners of micro-enterprises for technical and materials support to re-establish their livelihoods, with an emphasis on climate-smart activities and risk reduction strategies. Where appropriate, cash assistance is used as a modality to support livelihoods activities.

Hygiene promotion is another cross-cutting area, as the risks remain, especially for children, and this is an activity where relatively small inputs reap large benefits.

Alignment with JRC and government longer term plans

The recovery work following the hurricane is coherent with JRC's ambitions as set out in the most recent Strategic Plan. As an auxiliary to Government, JRC continues to work in support of national priorities and in alignment with national plans and strategies. As the recovery efforts progress, JRC seeks to be a robust and reliable humanitarian partner to all.

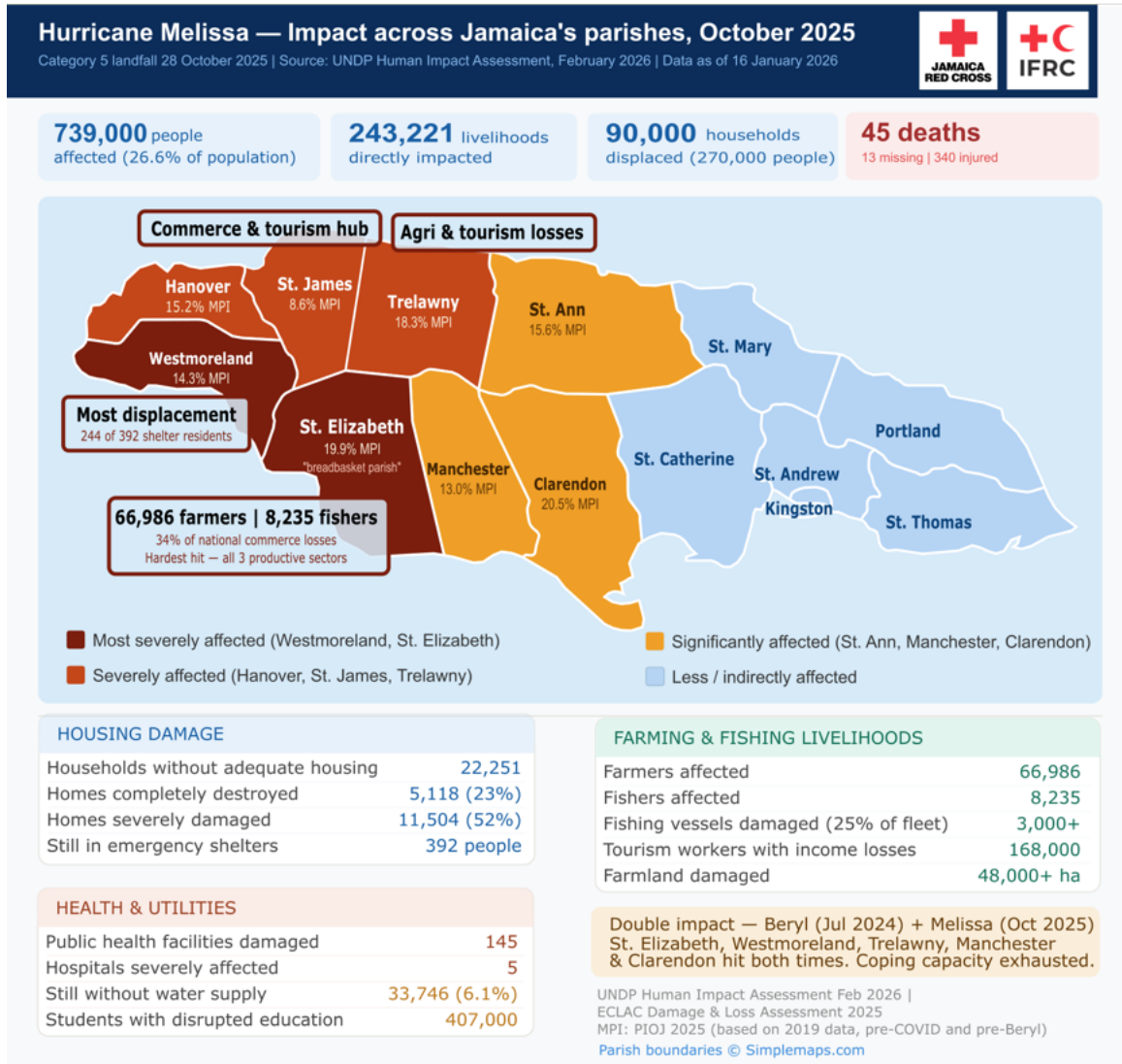
The impact of Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane season comes to Jamaica every year. The 2024 season brought a category 4 storm named Beryl, and communities were still slowly recovering from this when Hurricane Melissa made landfall, sixteen months later, on October 28, 2025. Melissa was one of the strongest hurricanes ever to form in the Caribbean basin, and the strongest recorded to have ever hit Jamaica.

The immediate impact was devastating - roofs torn off homes and buildings, with many being totally destroyed, roads cut off by trees and fallen power lines, communications down, and communities flooded with contaminated

water. Standing crops were destroyed and livelihood assets lost. Services were disrupted and access to utilities was interrupted. The psychological impact of such a severe storm is substantial and widespread.

Several months on, as relief is still being rolled out, the Jamaica Red Cross has developed a strategy for recovery for the affected communities – a strategy that will ensure that next time a major hurricane hits, both the communities and the Red Cross itself will be stronger, more resilient and better able to cope.

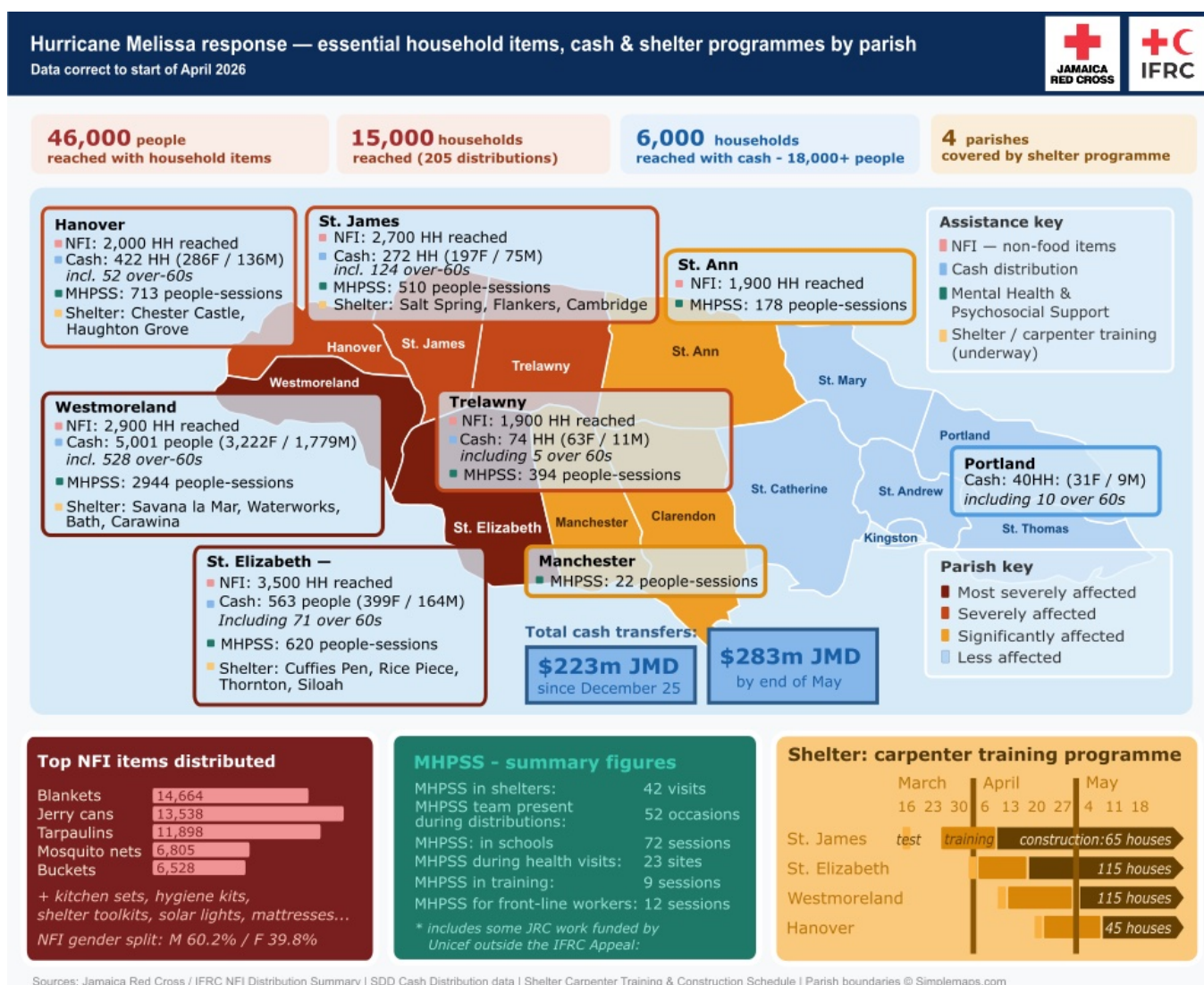


Achievements, 5 months after Hurricane Melissa

The original Operational Strategy, published under the IFRC Emergency Appeal, already included a well-developed recovery plan which has formed the basis for the current strategy.

Building on the immediate response, the Jamaica Red Cross aims to support approximately 60,000 households across

priority parishes, while strengthening community, branch and headquarters-level capacity to lead and manage future responses. Recovery efforts will therefore contribute not only to restoring pre-disaster conditions, but to enhancing local resilience and domestic response capability over the medium to longer term.





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The justification for a recovery programme

Much has already been written about the immediate impact of the hurricane: the physical damage to infrastructure and houses and the mental toll on those directly affected and those who went to help them. Melissa exposed, and in some cases exacerbated vulnerabilities at all levels. The urgent need to respond to these vulnerabilities and to mitigate their immediate effects provides strong justification for strategic investment in a vision of recovery that not only rebuilds people's homes, livelihoods and institutions, but does so in a manner that recognises people's agency, builds on their capacities, and strengthens their resilience.

Vulnerabilities exposed or worsened by Melissa

When Hurricane Melissa made landfall in October 2025, it uncovered and deepened a web of pre-existing and intersecting vulnerabilities across Jamaica. The storm, which is estimated to have caused damage equivalent to 56% of national GDP¹, struck some communities still recovering from Hurricane Beryl a year earlier. Other areas affected by this hurricane were less affected by previous storms, and perhaps as a result communities have been less receptive to preparedness messages. Melissa will have changed perceptions about vulnerability, and this presents an opportunity to reinforce messaging around safer housing, climate-smart livelihoods and safety nets such as savings schemes or insurance.

Structural damage to houses, hospitals and schools.

Hurricane Melissa exposed the vulnerability of the built environment, particularly in low-income and rural communities. 145 health

facilities in Jamaica were damaged², including five major hospitals, with catastrophic structural damage — roof loss, flooding, collapsed wards, and destruction of laboratories and operating theatres. Over 750 schools suffered damage, disrupting the education of over 400,000 children. Several continue to serve as emergency shelters and while school resumed in January 2026, those in the worst affected parishes are using shift system and/or blended learning approaches, delaying children's full return to education. Several months after the storm, more than half the national population had been affected, with widespread losses of housing, livelihoods, power, and water access.

Small-scale agricultural livelihoods.

The sector remains a cornerstone of Jamaica's economy, contributing approximately 8% to GDP³ and employing around 250,000 people, or 12% of the labour force. However, agriculture was already a precarious livelihood, before the storm arrived in the middle of the main harvest season. St. Elizabeth Parish, Jamaica's agricultural heartland, was devastated across every major crop category. Small-scale farmers experience any loss as a significant loss, and with most operating on five acres or less, the destruction of an entire harvest typically leaves no financial buffer for recovery.

Health: mental health and disease outbreaks.

Melissa took a significant toll on the mental and psychosocial wellbeing of affected communities, as well as those working to respond to the crisis: humanitarians, health workers and teachers. Many of these were also directly affected themselves, experiencing the same losses, disruptions and uncertainty as the

¹ Damage and losses are estimated to be US\$12.2 billion, according to the Planning Institute of Jamaica

² Most figures in this section come from UNDP's (draft) Human Impact Assessment

³ Data from OECD. Other sources provide slightly higher figures. More men than women work in agriculture, but the proportion (and the total labour force) varies seasonally.

communities they were supporting, while continuing to respond despite their own stress, grief and recovery needs.

Prior to the hurricane, Jamaica already carried a significant burden of vector-borne disease. As a result of Hurricane Melissa, the pressure on limited vector-control capacity was increased, raising the risk of mosquito borne dengue, chikungunya and zika fevers. The flooding created conditions that dramatically accelerated transmission: pools of stagnant, contaminated water lingered in low-lying areas. Between October and mid-January, authorities recorded 124 suspected leptospirosis cases, 40 confirmed, and 14 deaths.

Gender-based violence and protection.

Jamaica had pre-existing and well-documented risks of Gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation. The disaster sharply intensified these. Many shelters were overcrowded and insecure, heightening the risk of GBV, particularly for women and girls. The absence of lighting and overcrowding in temporary shelters further heightened GBV risks, while health systems strained by recurrent climate shocks faced mounting pressure to restore maternal and newborn care.



These vulnerabilities reflect structural inequalities and austerity-driven reductions in public services accumulated over years. Climate change compounded the picture further: the atmospheric and oceanic conditions that drove Melissa's rapid intensification to Category 5 were approximately six times more likely in today's climate than in a pre-industrial baseline⁴, ensuring that when the storm struck, it found a population whose exposure had already been deepened by these inequalities.

This analysis underpins the importance of a **long-term resilience approach**, to ensure that not only is relief provided and people's homes and livelihoods restored, but that in the longer term the structural vulnerabilities at household and community level are addressed, and that a strengthened Jamaica Red Cross reaffirms its strategic position as auxiliary to government, its programmes closely aligned with and contributing to government priorities, maximising the added value of its close engagement with Jamaica's people.

The IFRC defines **resilience** as the ability of individuals, communities, organizations or countries exposed to disasters, crises and underlying vulnerabilities to anticipate, prepare for, reduce the impact of, cope with and recover from the effects of shocks and stresses without compromising their long-term prospects.

⁴ According to a Rapid Attribution Study, by World Weather Attribution. The study also concludes that climate change increased the maximum wind speeds by 7%, and the Imperial College Storm Model suggests that climate change increased extreme rainfall associated with Melissa by 16%.

Institutional vulnerabilities exposed by the response

The vulnerabilities described above affected infrastructure, communities and households, and they relate to the immediate impact of the storm. Further vulnerabilities were exposed and maybe exacerbated during the immediate response phase. While recognising that the processes of review and evaluation are only just beginning, there is already evidence of issues that we can jointly start to address during the recovery operations, and indeed need to address ahead of the coming hurricane season.

Some of these issues relate directly to the Jamaica Red Cross. The role of (parish level) branches and their volunteers is critical, especially in a response which covers a large swathe of the country. Simple measures are already being taken to ensure volunteers can readily communicate, travel and deploy swiftly and have appropriate PPE, and that branches are able to respond quickly to small scale local events, and effectively call in resources from elsewhere in the system as that becomes necessary.

During the operations to date, JRC has been dependant on a core group of highly active, highly motivated volunteers; often coordinated from the centre. While this group has been effective, there is an exposed vulnerability here, as well as a risk of fatigue amongst these volunteers and a subsequent reduction in their engagement. They are still working hard, and the next hurricane season is on the horizon.

Branch structures are under-developed for a response at this scale, both in terms of infrastructure like buildings and access to vehicles, as well as staffing and systems. Where they operate effectively, the branches provide a vital focal point for engagement by the communities and the authorities, and for the volunteers themselves. The branch network should be strengthened and renewed as a matter of urgency, as part of preparedness for future hurricane seasons, as well as other hazards such as earthquakes.

IFRC surge support provided valuable technical assistance in areas such as warehousing, procurement, and cash-based programming. While IFRC always stands ready to assist National Societies during a major response, these are also areas where JRC's own capacity is critical to an effective response, and where capacity strengthening has already begun. This process must continue.

Other vulnerabilities exposed by the storm relate to the wider coordination functions and are outside the scope of this recovery strategy, which focuses solely on the role and activities of the Jamaica Red Cross. Issues include data collection and management, working group coordination, joint planning, and the maintenance of effective platforms for avoiding gaps and duplication of efforts: these will surely be discussed in various settings soon.

JRC's prior experience:

The Jamaica Red Cross has a wealth of experience in recovery projects for the short, medium and medium to long-term. These experiences range from small-scale weather-related shocks to major storm / hurricane events. Examples of major responses include Hurricanes Gilbert in 1988, Ivan in 2004, Sandy in 2012 and Beryl in 2024; civil unrest in West Kingston in 2010, and COVID-19.

Community Disaster Risk Reduction & Resilience

Over the last 10-15 years the JRC has facilitated the development of more than 30 community-based disaster response teams (CDRTs) across Jamaica and conducted many community-level Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA). The VCA model has recently been enhanced to include climate resilience and is now called EVCA.

Most recently, for Hurricane Beryl JRC facilitated the strengthening of CDRT for the Mitchell Town community in Clarendon including training in Disaster Risk Management and EVCA.

Livelihoods

JRC facilitated small business livelihood assistance projects for COVID-19 recovery support. After Hurricane Beryl JRC recovery activities included livelihood assistance to agriculture, fishers and small tourism enterprise sectors – by providing livelihood assets, inputs and capacity building. The interventions supported more than 250 people across western and southern parishes.

Cash transfers

JRC used cash transfers to provide livelihood support for both the COVID-19 and Hurricane Beryl interventions. Cash was also used for specific stand-alone recovery support during Beryl Recovery Operations.

Shelter and Settlement

JRC gained significant experience from the Hurricane Beryl Shelter Project planning and consultations, as well as the Shelter intervention which assisted 34 households across Clarendon, Manchester and St. Elizabeth with rebuilding/repair materials. JRC is working with IFRC to build and strengthen its knowledge and capacity in this critical area through this recovery operation.

Anticipatory Action

The JRC recognises the value of **Anticipatory Action** as a multiplier for both response and recovery. Hurricane Melissa saw JRC being the first NS to activate an **Imminent DREF** in the Americas Region which provided the resources and stimulus to propel the JRC into rapid response and early recovery actions for Melissa. Given this experience and the potential for Anticipatory Action/Early Action (AA/EA) the JRC desires to:

- Increase its knowledge and capacities for AA/EA – including a national AA Conference
- Further utilize the Imminent DREF an operational tool for future events
- Advocate and build buy-in for increased use of AA interventions
- Develop the first Early Action Protocol (EAP) for the Caribbean

Lessons Learnt

Every operation provides opportunities for learning and improvement. While these are typically specific to activities, sectors, systems or relationships, some higher-level learning emerges from recent responses, including the current one.

- Vulnerabilities in Jamaica are deep rooted in systemic risk areas such as poverty, low-income, and limited enforcement/regulation development control.
- Effective response and recovery operations rely heavily on effective communications, connectivity, power and strong local partnerships – both with other humanitarian actors and private sector.
- It takes significant cash to care. Specifically in the case of unsolicited donations, but for relief and recovery operations more generally, the availability of funds for support costs such as volunteers, communications and distributions is critical to success.



IFRC – accompanying the National Society at every step

We service a global Network of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (National Societies) who have some 450,000 staff and nearly 17 million volunteers in more than 280,000 local offices.

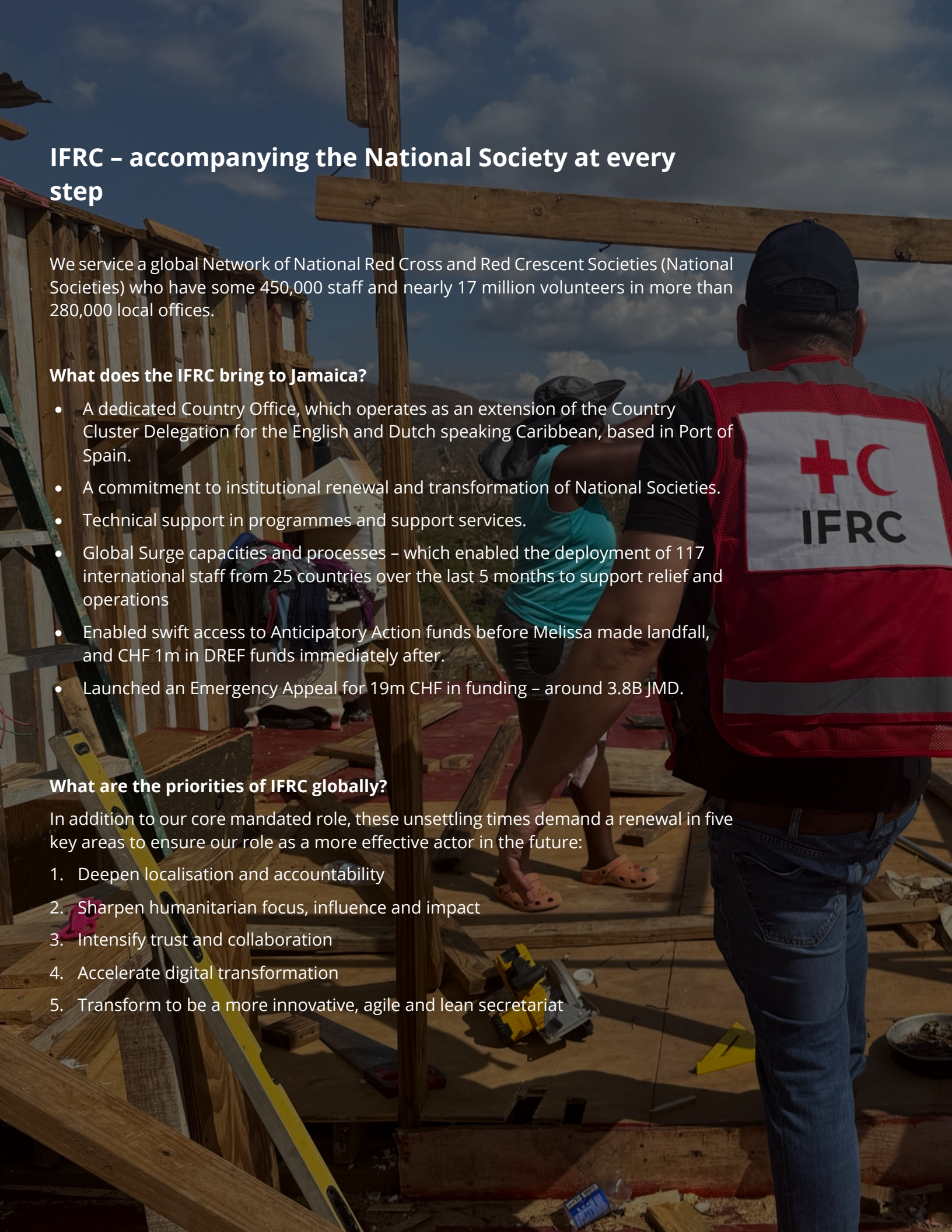
What does the IFRC bring to Jamaica?

- A dedicated Country Office, which operates as an extension of the Country Cluster Delegation for the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, based in Port of Spain.
- A commitment to institutional renewal and transformation of National Societies.
- Technical support in programmes and support services.
- Global Surge capacities and processes – which enabled the deployment of 117 international staff from 25 countries over the last 5 months to support relief and operations
- Enabled swift access to Anticipatory Action funds before Melissa made landfall, and CHF 1m in DREF funds immediately after.
- Launched an Emergency Appeal for 19m CHF in funding – around 3.8B JMD.

What are the priorities of IFRC globally?

In addition to our core mandated role, these unsettling times demand a renewal in five key areas to ensure our role as a more effective actor in the future:

1. Deepen localisation and accountability
2. Sharpen humanitarian focus, influence and impact
3. Intensify trust and collaboration
4. Accelerate digital transformation
5. Transform to be a more innovative, agile and lean secretariat



Approach to recovery

The goals of the recovery strategy

The primary goal of this strategy is to ensure that JRC's activities contribute towards the recovery of households and communities that were impacted by Hurricane Melissa, and to improve their resilience in the medium term. This goal will be met through activities undertaken hand-in-hand with the affected communities, addressing identified needs in the sectors of shelter, livelihoods, health including mental health and psychosocial support and the restoration of damaged rural health facilities, and hygiene promotion – all delivered in parishes that were highly impacted by the hurricane, and in locations which are under-served by other agencies – and together contributing to strengthened community resilience across the board.

As the evidence presented above demonstrates, for this to be achieved the Jamaica Red Cross must have sufficient resources in the right places to deliver these programmes. In the short term, this has been met through JRC's headquarters, branch network and volunteers, and supplemented by IFRC's surge mechanism working to accompany JRC in the delivery of programmes and services. In the medium to longer term, it's critical that the JRC has the capacity to respond to future events at all levels: within the communities, at branch level in coordination with parish authorities, and at the headquarters in St. Catherine. While the IFRC is always on hand to accompany JRC in responses to large scale events, it's essential that domestic capacity is available to lead large-scale responses, and to manage medium scale responses independently.

Fundamental to this ambition is the relationship between JRC and the Jamaican

Government. JRC was incorporated under an Act of Parliament in 1964⁵, and work is already underway to refresh that Act and bring the relationship up to date. The Melissa recovery operation provides an opportunity to build and strengthen relationships and partnerships with key line ministries, providing a practical foundation for the revised relationship.

Further, lessons learned from recent responses to Covid-19 and hurricane Beryl have been incorporated into the immediate response and into this recovery strategy.

Guiding priorities

Every activity within the Red Cross Movement is governed by the 7 Fundamental Principles⁶. Responding to the context, the impact of the hurricane and the exposed vulnerabilities described above, Jamaica Red Cross has identified the following priorities to guide the recovery operations with affected communities and households in the medium term:

- Building on the progress made in the immediate response, maintain a specific focus on the most vulnerable, and a determination to leave nobody behind in the recovery activities. In practical terms, this means an emphasis on community engagement, a cross-cutting focus on Protection, Gender and Inclusion, and ongoing monitoring to identify that intended outcomes are being achieved.
- Ensure close alignment with the recovery strategy of the Jamaican government. Ongoing coordination suggests a strong coherence both in terms of geographic focus and activities across a range of line Ministries and sectors. Operationally, JRC works in partnership or in coordination with key government Ministries and

⁵ The Jamaica Red Cross Society Act, 1964 (Act no 40 of 1964)

⁶ Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality

- technical Authorities, to ensure alignment and effectiveness.
- Identify and build on local capacities for increased ownership and resilience, through community engagement via the JRC branches and volunteer network. Maximise engagement with existing initiatives in the communities served, and work in a mutually beneficial manner with them.
 - Mainstream risk reduction and climate change adaptation approaches throughout the recovery process. Promote nature-based solutions. Identify potential environmental concerns⁷ associated with activities and take measures to mitigate them.
 - Ensure good financial and donor stewardship by creating structures that manage risk and ensure compliance, transparency and accountability, ensuring the highest standard for the usage of public funds, to maintain and strengthen the positive image of Jamaica Red Cross among domestic and international stakeholders.
- and independent partner of government, while firmly maintaining its operational independence.
 - JRC seeks to adopt innovating financing approaches to fund the recovery strategy. Engaging the corporate sector for mutual benefit; partnering with interagency partners, charitable organizations and local government authorities to expand collective reach.
 - Working with the National Societies in the US, UK and Canada, seek to engage more strongly with the Jamaican diaspora community, building trust and providing a conduit for them to support communities affected by future shocks. Around two million Jamaicans live overseas, 1.1m of them in the USA.

To deliver on these priorities, the following approaches describe how JRC, supported by the wider IFRC network, will seek to strengthen and position itself in the near future.

- We will leverage the strength and breadth of the IFRC Network, including its National Societies, reference centres, people, and peer-to-peer support from CARICOM nations, not only to support Jamaica RC in its central role delivering through the Hurricane Melissa appeal but also enhancing its preparedness and capacity to respond in the future.
- With reference to JRC's auxiliary role with government and the Legislative Act that inaugurated the institution in 1964, the national society will seek to do more than simply align with Government's recovery strategy. JRC will meet the expectations of the auxiliary role as an effective, proactive

When a household roof is repaired in a way which will survive the next hurricane intact, this is an investment in a safer future. When households and communities are equipped with stronger livelihoods, adapted to a changing climate, they build financial stability which is secure against threats. When children and teachers act as agents of change, spreading knowledge and good practice around hygiene and self-care, this reduces risk. These approaches all contribute to resilience at a household level.

When these household interventions are combined with strengthened community cohesion, the impact is multiplied. When communities decide to pool risks through a savings scheme or identify local hazards and work jointly to mitigate them, they reduce their exposure, but they also strengthen the bonds between them.

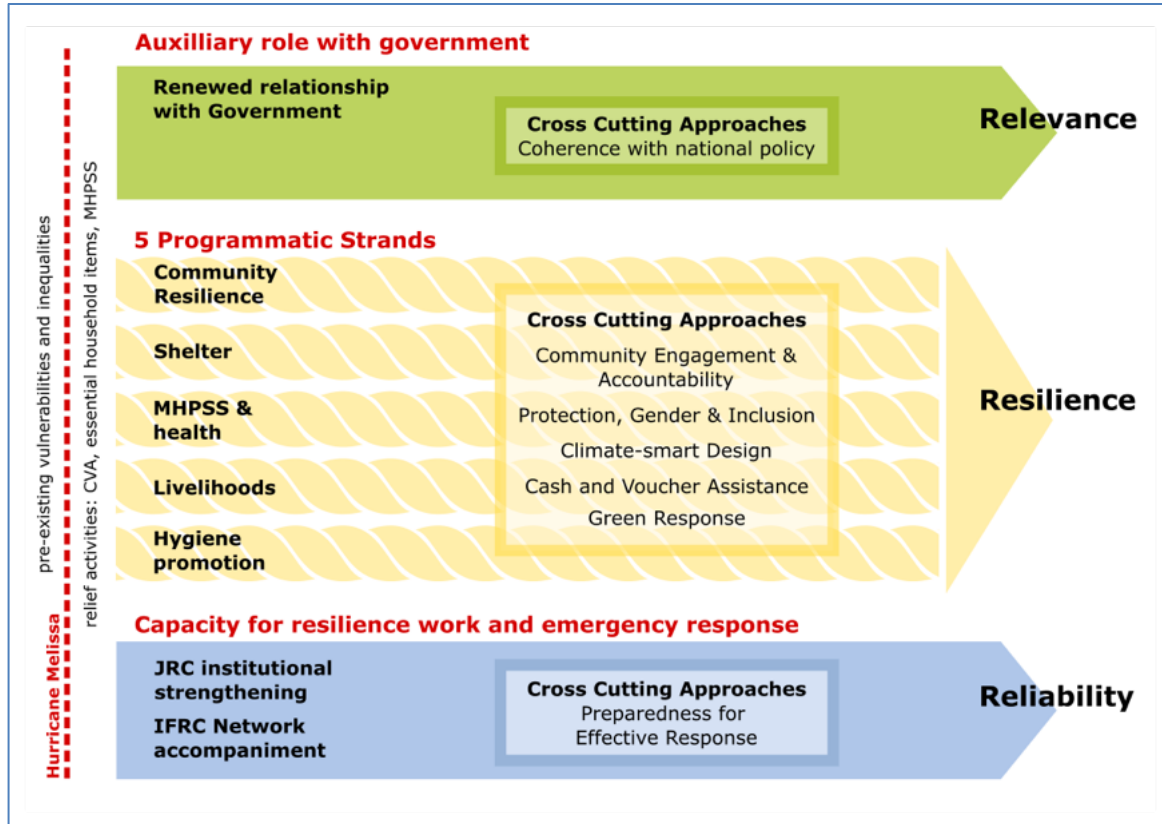
Combine these approaches with a stronger relationship between the communities, the Red Cross, and the local authorities and the ingredients are all in place for sustainable resilience building. The interaction between economic resilience, physical safety, social solidarity and institutional connection drives a

⁷ See IFRC Green Response and Environment Policy: <https://www.ifrc.org/document/environment-policy>

sustained shift from vulnerability to resilience, ensuring that communities are not only better protected against future shocks, but active

agents in their own long-term recovery and preparedness.

Hurricane Melissa Recovery Approach, overview





Strands of the recovery programme

The recovery plans set out in the operational strategy aim to generate positive outcomes

across five key sectors – all supported by cross-cutting **community engagement** approaches:

Community resilience:	Identify and build upon community capacities to strengthen resilience
Shelter:	Safe roof repairs that incorporate safer construction techniques.
Livelihoods:	Restoration of assets and income sources.
Health:	Rehabilitation of rural facilities and mental health/psychosocial support.
Hygiene:	Promotion of sanitation to minimise or prevent post-disaster outbreaks.

Targeting approaches

Overall, the recovery activities will prioritise families or households with limited economic resources that meet the following criteria:

- Households – owners and renters – whose houses have been damaged by the hurricane
- Households that have suffered damage to their livelihoods (particularly among those dependent on the agricultural, fishing and small business sectors)
- Households headed by a single parent
- Households with dependent elderly adults; children under five years of age and/or pregnant women
- Households including people with disabilities

In addition to these general criteria, sector-specific prioritisation will be based on the following:

- **Shelter:** Families whose house roofs were fully or partially destroyed, sustained damage from high winds, or lost essential household items.
- **Livelihoods:** Families that experienced partial or total loss of their primary income-generating activity, especially in fishing and farming communities, and for owners of micro-enterprises.
- **Health and hygiene promotion** activities will prioritize communities affected by the floods with limited access to health services.



Community engagement and PGI

JRC's recovery approach creates meaningful participation through community engagement and empowerment, with deliberate attention to protection, gender and inclusion across all programme components. Social mobilization uses participatory appraisal methods⁸ with emphasis on supporting the most vulnerable, reinforcing self-coping capacity, building resilience, reducing vulnerability and community-led reconstruction.

This social mobilization approach emphasises trust and relationship building in the community, engaging communities through participation, and strengthening credibility through ongoing monitoring, transparency and accountability.

This unique relationship with communities, alongside JRC's auxiliary role with government provides the opportunity for two-way communication, allowing community perspectives to find expression in government policy and programmes.

The Emergency Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) is a participatory, community-based tool developed by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to systematically identify hazards, vulnerabilities, and capacities at the local level.

EVCA brings together community members, local authorities, and Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers to collectively analyse disaster risks and the resources available to address them. The process uses a range of participatory methods — such as hazard mapping, seasonal calendars, and focus group discussions — to build a shared understanding of risk that is grounded in community knowledge and experience.

Findings from the EVCA inform the development of Community Disaster Risk Reduction Plans, guiding targeted action to strengthen resilience before disasters occur. By placing communities at the centre of the analysis, the EVCA supports locally-led disaster risk reduction and fosters ownership of preparedness and response efforts.

⁸ EVCA, Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, is the Red Cross approach to community resilience and disaster risk reduction.

Community resilience

RATIONALE

This is the over-arching operational approach of the Jamaica Red Cross in its recovery strategy: **strengthen resilience, promote risk reduction, and enhance disaster preparedness at the community level.** with deliberate attention to protection, gender and inclusion across all programme components.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Identify and build upon capacities and opportunities within communities, to develop and strengthen resilience.

JRC is recognised as a **reliable strategic partner** for community resilience initiatives.

TARGETING

Communities in the highly affected parishes, with high levels of underlying vulnerability, and which are not supported by other agencies with similar objectives

ALIGNMENT

All JRC recovery activities contribute to this objective, but there are also stand-alone resilience strengthening activities.

Where they are not strong, linkages with Parish level disaster management committees will be developed and strengthened.

The approach is strongly aligned to both government recovery and longer-term plans, and the JRC 5-year strategic plan.

APPROACH

Undertake EVCA's to identify the communities' priorities and capacities, as well as the hazards they face and their vulnerability to those hazards. Promote social cohesion and solidarity and encourage the formation of community safety nets such as savings schemes and cooperatives.

Promote climate-smart programming activities: use of short-, medium- and long-term climate projections to identify priority areas for interventions related to disaster risk reduction and preparedness, health impacts, and climate-resilient livelihoods. Activities such as mangrove restoration, appropriate to the local environment.

Undertake JRC branch strengthening, in terms of premises, systems, staff and volunteers, and equipment.

Volunteer recruitment and training: first aid, psychological first aid, disaster risk reduction and preparedness, disaster management.

Recruit and train volunteers to serve on Community Disaster Response Teams.

Develop and strengthen the relationship with the Parish level disaster management committees and structures.

Shelter

RATIONALE

Around 146,000 buildings sustained major damage. Many of these are people's homes.

Following on from distributions which included shelter toolkits, tarpaulins and mosquito nets amongst other items, JRC is now moving towards addressing **permanent shelter solutions** to help Jamaican families build back safer and increase their resilience to future disasters by **reconstructing or repairing destroyed roofs**.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Communities in worst-affected areas are supported in restoring and strengthening their well-being and dignity by restoring their homes through the **provision of roofing repair materials, technical assistance and labour support**.

JRC is recognised as a reliable partner in the restoration of safer housing in the aftermath of a major hurricane.

TARGETING

Four of the most affected parishes were selected: St James, St Elizabeth, Westmoreland and Hanover. In total ten geographic clusters were identified based on damage mapping within these parishes. The 340 households targeted have damage to their roofs, but the main structure of their property remains intact. Households will need to be able to demonstrate secure tenure or approval from their landlord for the repairs.

ALIGNMENT

Targeting is based on shared data through the Jamaica Damage and Impact Assessment, to which JRC was a contributor.

Although it adopts a different implementation modality, the project is closely aligned with the Government's Shelter Recovery Programme, Component 3.

This component links with Livelihoods through skills training, and with MHPSS in shared implementation, with a referral mechanism also in place.

APPROACH

Social mobilisation. This begins with community engagement, building trust within the community and building the foundation for accountability. The most vulnerable households per village are identified from assessment data gathered by JRC volunteers, with attention to protection, gender and inclusion concerns. This also provides an entry point for MHPSS activities, described below.

Technical assistance. Within each project area, carpenters will be identified based on a quick skills test, and further training will be provided in Build Back Safer techniques, the Building Code and Health and Safety standards. From this pool of partially trained people, supervisors and team leaders are selected and provided additional training.

Carpenter teams will then be formed to meet the project needs, and will each receive a full tool kit and insurance. Construction supervisors will be trained in each village, and Bill of Quantities (BOQ) will be developed for each roof. Build back safer messaging will be provided across the project sites and villages, as a risk reduction strategy.

Tiered assistance. The materials will be delivered to each selected household as per prepared BOQ, which will ensure the full repair of the damaged roof as per Build Back Safer techniques.

The project will hire trucks and workers to clean the debris and building waste from the sites and take it to an appropriate location.

Livelihoods

RATIONALE

Fishing and farming livelihoods were perilous before the hurricane, impacted by climate change and market volatility. **Small producers and enterprises** rarely have insurance or other safety nets. The hurricane destroyed physical assets, stocks, and inputs, and affected people have limited resources to restore and diversify their livelihoods.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

People, livelihood associations, and community-based organisations in hurricane-affected areas are supported in diversifying and strengthening their livelihoods.

TARGETING

The geographic focus of this component will be **coastal fishing communities** and **productive farming communities** in the most affected parishes of St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Hanover, St. James, Trelawny, St Ann and Manchester.

Farmers with smaller holdings, and a focus on nationally important food crops will be prioritised for assistance, as will women, single parent families, youth and persons with disabilities, and others who may face higher barriers to recovery.

ALIGNMENT

The **climate-smart livelihoods** approach aligns with the Government's National Outcome 14: Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change.

Key partnerships to implement this component will be with RADA, National Fisheries Authority (NFA) and Heart Trust NTA, Authorities under the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining; and the MSME Division of Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce.

APPROACH

Household-level and group-level livelihoods support: Livelihoods support will begin with the identification of suitable communities, followed by a targeting process within those communities to identify appropriate households and/or groups or associations to support. The EVCA, carried out as part of the community resilience component, will further inform the detailed design of relevant climate-smart livelihoods.

Technical assistance: Once the target households and groups have been identified, JRC in collaboration with relevant stakeholders⁹ will provide climate-smart livelihoods training and support to develop plans for strengthening and diversifying their livelihoods in line with climate projections, such as small infrastructure repair, restocking, procurement of inputs and equipment. Farming communities will benefit from strengthened infrastructure to reduce post-harvest losses.

Assistance modality: The main modality for delivering livelihoods assistance will be cash, including group cash transfers and micro grants where feasible and appropriate.

⁹ For example, National Fisheries Authority, Rural Agricultural Development Authority, through hands-on approaches such as farmer field schools, with a strong focus on climate-related risks and adaptation.

Health, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

RATIONALE

The hurricane had severe effects on people’s **physical and mental health and psychosocial wellbeing**, while also reducing the capacity of the health system to respond to these needs.

Multiple health centres sustained damage to their buildings which compromised their operations. At the same time healthcare workers were themselves affected by the hurricane, increasing pressure on the already strained services.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Support the recovery of individuals and communities affected by the hurricane through integrated health and MHPSS interventions:

- layered community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- referral to specialised support when needed
- care and wellbeing support for staff and volunteers engaged in the response
- rehabilitation of damaged health centres to help restore access to essential services.

TARGETING

The focus is on highly affected communities. Attention will be given to community leaders and frontline groups who play a central role in recovery, such as teachers, health workers, and other community actors, including JRC’s own staff and volunteers.

ALIGNMENT

The MHPSS component aligns with the recovery priorities of the Ministry of Health and Wellness and will be implemented in coordination with MOHW and Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information and relevant agencies.

Health centre rehabilitation is undertaken in accordance with MOHW priorities

APPROACH

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

- Implement a multi-layered, community-based MHPSS programme for populations affected by the hurricane, with a focus on strengthening local coping capacities, social connectedness, and community resilience.
- Build on the strong base of trained Jamaica Red Cross volunteers as a key operational asset, allowing MHPSS support to be delivered in a timely, community-based, and locally rooted way while strengthening local capacity and ownership.
- Deliver safe and inclusive MHPSS activities in communities, collective shelters, schools, and other recovery settings for women, men, girls and boys affected by distress, grief, loss, and other psychosocial impacts of the disaster.
- Strengthen community and institutional support systems, including schools and frontline services, so they are better equipped to promote psychosocial well-being, support people in distress, and facilitate safe referral where needed.
- Promote staff and volunteer wellbeing through structured staff care and peer support mechanisms, supportive supervision and referral options.

Restoration of Medical Facilities

- Support the rehabilitation of rural health facilities, with the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Hygiene Promotion

RATIONALE

Hurricane Melissa exposed **acute vulnerabilities during emergencies**, particularly for children returning to school environments which were previously used as emergency shelter and have been impacted by flooding, debris, damaged sanitation facilities, and increased vector breeding.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Children and adults adopt and sustain priority hygiene and risk-reduction behaviours in post-hurricane contexts—**particularly in schools and flood-affected communities**—contributing to reduced outbreak risks (including leptospirosis and vector-borne diseases) and supporting safer recovery.

TARGETING

This component will prioritise hurricane-affected communities where flooding, damaged sanitation facilities, disrupted water access and increased vector/rodent risks are reported, with a strong focus on school environments that were used as emergency shelters and/or have resumed classes with limited WASH functionality

Primary target groups include:

Children and adolescents returning to school.

Caregivers, teachers and school staff (as multipliers for routine hygiene behaviours).

Households in flood-affected communities with heightened exposure to contaminated water, rodents and vectors.

ALIGNMENT

This approach is coherent with government strategy, from the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Ministry of Education, as well as the Child Protection and Family Services Agency.

It supports the MOHW priorities on outbreak prevention and links with the MHPSS approach: by integrating hygiene promotion with school-based MHPSS activities, contributing to routine, safety, predictability while strengthening supportive interactions and safe referrals where needed

APPROACH

A multi-pronged approach across **schools**, through deliberate **community engagement**, and capitalising on other **community gatherings**:

- A programme of hygiene education through schools. Targeted hygiene promotion with children can also reinforce protective behaviours within households and communities, as children act as effective agents of change.
- A project to train trainers for ongoing hygiene promotion, risk education and community engagement in emergencies
- An ongoing process to capitalise on community gatherings such as distributions and shelter projects as opportunities to pass messages on and gain feedback



National Society strengthening

Jamaica Red Cross operates as one part of a wider Red Cross Red Crescent Network, and that network operates to provide support to its members in the face of exceptional demands. That network was mobilised for the response to Hurricane Melissa. However, as a major national actor, JRC also has national responsibilities and must maintain the capacity for national response.

As set out in the justification at the start of this strategy, Hurricane Melissa exposed some systemic vulnerabilities within both Jamaica Red Cross and the broader response and coordination mechanisms in Jamaica. To effectively respond to the needs of people affected by future disasters, JRC must further invest in its own systems, structures and staffing. In the same way that we emphasise rebuilding safer, more resilient houses, we must build a stronger, more resilient National Society

Support from the network included additional capacity in shelter, cash-based programming, health, mental health and psychosocial support, as well as support in data management, logistics, administration, communications and reporting. While some of this additional capacity is directed towards the direct provision of services, as the operation evolves some of it is directed towards strengthening capacity, through working with counterparts, strengthening systems, and providing training. Substantial capacity strengthening efforts for Jamaica Red Cross are underway or completed in MHPSS, stock management and cash-based programming, and vital equipment has been handed over to the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

This support to longer term capacity strengthening is not happening in an ad-hoc manner: it is consistent with existing longer-term planning processes, including the Network's Unified Plan for Jamaica Red Cross 2025-27, and the JRC Strategic Plan 2021-25.

Alignment with the JRC Strategic Plan 2021-25

The JRC's strategic planning cycle has been interrupted by two major hurricane responses: the most recent plan was scheduled to be completed at the end of 2025. This plan places considerable emphasis on EVCA and community engagement processes, both of which will be utilised extensively within the recovery operations. The plan describes an ambition to better integrate marginalised people in planning and implementation, as well as being beneficiaries of programmes – again, this is coherent with the cross-cutting Protection, Gender and Inclusion approaches within this strategy.

The 5-year strategic plan anticipates future hurricane responses and includes plans to train shelter managers. While this was not completed during the period, the shelter recovery component described above will contribute to this ambition. Similarly, the strategic plan proposes an emphasis on environmentally friendly response solutions, which is coherent with the current strategy.

With regards to its place within the national disaster coordination framework, the plan states that:

“Jamaica Red Cross plans are aligned with the national system, promoting strategic alliances with relevant sectors such as communities, civil society, United Nations, uniformed bodies, private sector and academic institutions, among others while guaranteeing at all times the observance and compliance of the fundamental principles.”

Alignment with the Unified Plan for JRC 2025-2027

The Unified Plan for JRC describes several additional workstreams which align strongly with this recovery strategy, beyond those outlined in the Strategic Plan. On financial sustainability (p11):

“The development of a resource mobilization strategy, including external and domestic cooperation, will be the key to enhance the delivery services, which will be accompanied by a marketing strategy to determine the correct market space to promote all the work that the volunteers and staff are doing.”

On humanitarian diplomacy and locating the Jamaican Red Cross more strategically with government partners (p12):

“JRC has recognized the importance of using humanitarian diplomacy to strengthen its dialogue on key humanitarian issues, as well as the importance of continuing investing in the development of evidence that can influence opinion, policy, and practices. As a matter of fact, the National Society has hired a constitutional expert who is helping in the revision of the Jamaica Red Cross Act of 1964, and the auxiliary role. To this end updating the Red Cross Act to facilitate its Auxiliary Role Advocacy Strategy & RoadMap has been developed.”

And on strengthening the use of IT (also p12)

“Digital transformation of the Jamaica Red Cross’ processes: This would include significant upgrading of the server and other IT systems of the NHQ, facilitating digital connectivity between the Jamaica Red Cross NHQ and 13 branches as well as the digitization of the entire data collection process of the National Society for improved efficiency and quicker response.”

“ Our branches are the arms and legs of the JRC, while our volunteers are the life blood and veins ”

Branches and volunteers

The volunteers are the foundation and the bedrock of the National Society, and the branches give them a local base, a point of reference and centre from which to operate. JRC branches form part of the Parish level disaster management mechanism and maintain relationships with offices of various government Ministries and Authorities.

While there is a longstanding ambition to strengthen the branch network, this has been constrained by a shortage of resources. The response to Melissa has demonstrated the importance of this ambition.

Strong effective branches are required for volunteer management and efficient delivery of humanitarian services. A functioning branch needs:

- Targeted volunteer recruitment
- Capacity in Operations Management, Community Engagement, First Aid, Finance, Logistics and Resource Mobilization
- Dedicated office space - Admin and minimum storage, with secure tenure.
- Minimum two dedicated full-time staff: one technical and one administrative.
- Access to at least one reliable motor vehicle

The JRC Strategic plan highlights the need for a capacity mapping and strengthening exercise and this is planned for 2026. IFRC has developed tools to support this process, including the Branch Organisational Capacity Assessment, BOCA.



The national recovery context

National coordination architecture

The national responsibility for coordination of humanitarian response lies with the Humanitarian Assistance Committee of the National Disaster Management Council. This committee is co-chaired by Jamaica Red Cross.

Relationships with Government

JRC has sectoral or project-based relationships with the following institutions which are relevant to the recovery strategy:

Planning Institute of Jamaica	PIOJ	Overall planning for recovery
Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management	ODPEM	Disaster Management
Ministry of Labour and Social Services	MLSS	Primary line ministry for JRC (co-chair of Humanitarian Assistance Committee)
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining National Fisheries Authority Rural Agriculture Development Authority	MoAFM NFA RADA	Livelihoods in farming and fishing sectors Fishing livelihoods Farming livelihoods
Ministry of Health and Wellness	MoHW	MHPSS Hygiene education Environmental sanitation and vector control
Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information Vocational Training Institute	MoESYI JVTI	Hygiene education in schools Mason and carpenter training & livelihoods
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade	MFAFT	Revised JRC Act

National recovery assessments and strategy

An initial GRADE¹⁰ report was completed in mid-November, which estimated damage and losses across a range of sectors.

For the collection of household level data, all major agencies operating in Jamaica used a common assessment data format, the Jamaica

Household Disaster Impact and Needs Assessment, and data was sent to MLSS for consolidation. Once cleaned, JHDINA data was made available to all partners to assist with targeting and operational focus.

A more detailed Damage and Loss Assessment is currently being finalised, and will be published shortly, which estimates the damage and losses to be greater than the initial GRADE methodology. Alongside this is a forthcoming

¹⁰ A World Bank / GFDRR methodology: Global Rapid Post-disaster Damage Estimation.

JRC RECOVERY STRATEGY – HURRICANE MELISSA

human impact assessment, which will inform fine decisions around targeting and programme detail.

Government recovery plans:

The Government of Jamaica has established a Recovery and Reconstruction Authority to oversee and coordinate recovery efforts.

While the plan has not yet been published, many of the sectoral elements are already clear and Jamaica Red Cross is confident that there will be strong coherence between plans, both geographically and technically.

Government strategic plan:

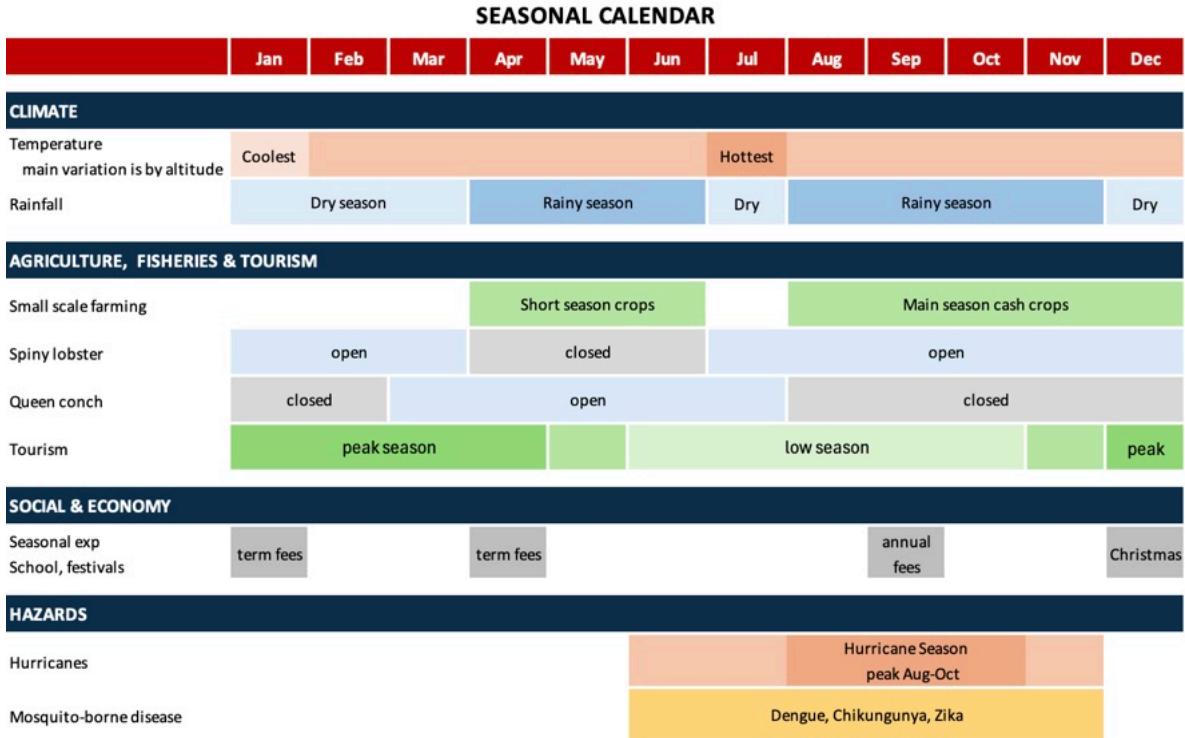
For longer term development, the government has a comprehensive medium-term socio-economic policy framework for 2024-27¹¹, parts of which will have been impacted by the hurricane. Annex 1 to this document cross-references some of these policies and actions with the components of this recovery strategy. Almost every part of the JRC Recovery Strategy finds expression in this Framework, with particular strong correlation in disaster management, but also across livelihoods, MHPSS and shelter.



¹¹ <https://www.vision2030.gov.jm/2025/08/05/medium-term-socio-economic-policy-framework-mtf-2024-2027-extended-version-now-available-for-download/>

Projections and risk analysis

Seasonality



Impact of climate change on key sectors in this strategy

Due to the changing climate, Jamaica is likely to undergo a warming and drying trend and is expected to face longer more frequent droughts, rainfall with increased intensity, and rising sea levels.

These changes are already impacting agrarian production with reduced rainfall, an increase in pests and diseases that affect crops, soil erosion, and heat stress for livestock.

In the fishing sector, rising ocean temperatures, acidification, and intense storms are reducing fish stocks and damaging coastal infrastructure. Key effects include a shift to lower-value fish species, damaged coral reefs, and forced migration of fish to deeper waters, challenging local fishers who rely on near-shore habitats.

Climate change poses a critical threat to Jamaica's tourism sector, with rising sea levels, beach erosion, coral bleaching, and increased intensity of hurricanes threatening to destroy key coastal infrastructure and attractions. The sector is highly vulnerable, as most hotels are

Climate smart livelihoods integrate short-term weather forecasts, seasonal forecasts, and long-term climate projections into their design to ensure they do not increase vulnerability, while empowering communities to anticipate, absorb, and adapt to climate shocks and changes. These approaches safeguard livelihoods against future climate risks by focusing on people-centred, locally led action.

JRC RECOVERY STRATEGY – HURRICANE MELISSA

on the coast, putting it at risk of significant economic loss and job disruption.

Finally, the changing climate is also impacting people’s health. Heat-related diseases, vector borne infections and air pollution are all on the

rise. The threat and the impact of more frequent and more intense hurricanes both have a negative effect on people’s mental health.

	Better-case scenario	Worse-case scenario
12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major storm in 2026 season 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major Storm in 2026 season
JRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOCA exercise completed; priority branches identified Stocks replenished Increase volunteer numbers and capacities/capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No prepositioning of stocks Limited capacity strengthening at HQ or Branches
Communities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities reconnected Cash distributions completed/far advanced Rebuilding underway Livelihoods assets partially replaced and capacity development interventions conducted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large number of impacted communities with no connectivity or power Major exposure due to slow repairs/rebuild implementation Further destruction to livelihood resources
24 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major storm in 2027 season PER advanced Improved provision of storage and replenishment stocks Further increase volunteer numbers and capacities/capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major storm in 2027 Limited prepositioning No further improvement to HQ and Branches beyond 2026
JRC	As above	As above
Communities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of eVCAs, CDRTs and Red Cross Area Groups Reconstruction and repairs fully completed in prior impacted communities/HHs Livelihood capacity strengthening/building interventions implemented Increased resilience to Social and Critical Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same communities are again impacted by 2027 storm No increase in CDRTs or Limited strengthening of existing CDRTs

Recovery strategy components summarised





Annex: Alignment

Goal, national outcome & national / sector strategy	Development programme areas (extract)	Main actions (extract)	Aligned components of JRC recovery strategy
Goal 1. Jamaicans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential			
National Outcome 1: A healthy and stable population			
1-1. Maintain a strong child protection framework against physical, sexual, and psycho-social violence and related vulnerabilities	8. Frameworks and plans for protecting children against physical, sexual, and psycho-social violence and related vulnerabilities	iii. Strengthen the operations of the Ananda Alert System to aid in the recovery of missing children and provide psychosocial support to children and families	MHPSS – child friendly spaces; referral mechanisms; training and collaboration with CPFSA MHPSS in schools and shelters, collaboration with MOESYI
National Outcome 2: World class education and training			
2-7: Expand mechanisms to provide education and training for all, including unattached youth	13. Alignment of education and training with labour market needs, and growth and competitiveness	n/a	Carpenter training for shelter component TBC Training elements of livelihoods components
National Outcome 3: Effective social protection			
3-1: Infuse Poverty and Vulnerability Considerations in All Public Policies	3. Improve and expand access to social housing	ii. Improve land ownership (secure tenure) through the provision of affordable land, land titling/regularization and the reduction of squatting	Shelter component

This annex briefly sets out areas of alignment between the JRC recovery strategy and the medium-term socio-economic policy framework, 2024-2027 (PIQ)

Goal, national outcome & national / sector strategy	Development programme areas (extract)	Main actions (extract)	Aligned components of JRC recovery strategy
Goal 2: The Jamaican society is secure, cohesive and just National Outcome 6: Effective governance			
6-1: Strengthen the process of citizen participation in governance	1. Participatory Governance Framework (PGF)	i. Promote and facilitate citizen participation in local governance	EVCA processes in community resilience component Community and JRC participation in Parish Disaster Committee
	2. Community Research and Development Planning (CRDP)	i. Develop and implement Community Priority Plans (CPPs) ii. Develop/expand databases on communities	VCA processes in community resilience component Community and JRC participation in Parish Disaster Committee
6-5: Foster equity in all spheres of society	12. Gender socialisation	i. Educate and sensitize the public and raise awareness of gender-based violence (GBV)	MHPSS and community resilience components and PGI mainstreaming , including GBV training

Goal, national outcome & national / sector strategy	Development programme areas (extract)	Main actions (extract)	Aligned components of JRC recovery strategy
<p>Goal 3: Jamaica's economy is prosperous National Outcome 8: An enabling business environment</p>			
<p>8-7: Develop the capabilities of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)</p>	<p>22. Development of micro, small and medium sized enterprises</p>	<p>ii. Develop Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise</p>	<p>Livelihoods components for MSMEs and cooperatives</p>
<p>National Outcome 12: Internationally competitive industry structures - Agriculture</p>			
<p>Sector strategy: Maintain an enabling environment for the creation of new technologies and improved climate resilient productivity through agricultural research and development (R&D)</p>	<p>9. Youth and Women in Agriculture Entrepreneurship</p>	<p>ii. Implement Rural Youth Economic Empowerment Programme (RYEEP) iv. Implement National School Garden Programme v. Provide youth with access to agricultural lands with supporting infrastructure for primary production in the fresh and value-added products markets</p>	<p>Livelihoods components for agriculture PGI mainstreaming and MHPSS integration</p>
<p>Sub-Sector Strategy: Maintain an internationally competitive fisheries sub-sector</p>	<p>10. Fisheries development</p>	<p>v. Implement Promoting Community- Based Climate Resilience Fisheries Project</p>	<p>Livelihoods components for fisheries PGI mainstreaming and MHPSS integration Climate-smart approach</p>
<p>National Outcome 12: Internationally competitive industry structures - cultural and creative industries</p>			
<p>Sector strategy:</p>	<p>3. Business Development and Trade Facilitation for Cultural and Creative Industries</p>	<p>iii. Develop and implement programme to promote community tourism</p>	<p>Livelihoods components for SMEs in tourism sector</p>

Goal, national outcome & national / sector strategy	Development programme areas (extract)	Main actions (extract)	Aligned components of JRC recovery strategy
Goal 4. Jamaica has a healthy natural environment			
National Outcome 14: Hazard risk reduction and adaptation to climate change			
14-1: Improve Resilience to All Forms of Hazard	1. Hazard Risks & Vulnerability Assessments	i. Create and manage a Database / National Risk Information Platform (NRIP)	EVCA components of community resilience component
	2. National Readiness Programme	i. Improve the Emergency Communication Systems / Early Warning Systems	JRC auxiliary role
14-2: Improve Emergency Response Capabilities	3. National Disaster Recovery Framework	i. Develop and implement Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Plans ii. Revise the recovery phase of DRM to ensure inclusiveness and gender-responsiveness v. Implement National Public Education and Awareness Programme	JRC auxiliary role PGI mainstreaming; MHPSS integration EVCA and community resilience component
14-3: Develop Measures to Adapt to Climate Change	4. Climate Change Adaptation Best Practices	ii. Implement ecosystem-based initiatives/projects for enhancing community resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts iii. Promote information sharing and reporting to enable good environmental practices at the community level (tourism, farming, fishing) v. Promote Public Awareness and Behavioural Change	Climate-smart programming Nature-based solutions
National Outcome 15: Sustainable urban and rural development			
15-5 Ensure safe, sanitary, and affordable shelter for all	7. Provision of adequate shelter	i. Increase access to housing solutions ii. Implement Social Housing Programme	Shelter component

The seven Fundamental Principles

Humanity

The Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours – in its international and national capacities – to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Our purpose is to protect life and health, and to ensure respect for the human being. We promote mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace among all peoples.

Impartiality

The Movement makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. We endeavour to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

Neutrality

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

Independence

The Movement is independent. National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

Voluntary service

The Movement is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

Unity

There can be only one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

Universality

The Movement, in which all National Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.



5 IN 5