

IFRC Framework for Community Resilience

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest volunteer-based humanitarian network. Together with our 189 member National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies worldwide, we reach 97 million people annually through long-term services and development programmes as well as 85 million people through disaster response and early recovery programmes. We act before, during and after disasters and health emergencies to meet the needs and improve the lives of vulnerable people. We do so with impartiality as to nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class and political opinions.

Guided by Strategy 2020 – our collective plan of action to tackle the major humanitarian and development challenges of this decade - we are committed to 'saving lives and changing minds'.

Our strength lies in our volunteer network, our communitybased expertise and our independence and neutrality. We work to improve humanitarian standards, as partners in development and in response to disasters. We persuade decision-makers to act at all times in the interests of vulnerable people.

The result: we enable healthy and safe communities, reduce vulnerabilities, strengthen resilience and foster a culture of peace around the world.

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Cover photo: Victor Lacken / IFRC A family from the Pipeline community near Monrovia, Liberia, drying fish for sale in the market. Access to economic opportunities strengthens community resilience. P.O. Box 303 CH-1211 Geneva 19 Switzerland Telephone: +41 22 730 4222 Telefax: +41 22 733 0395 E-mail: secretariat@ifrc.org Web site: www.ifrc.org

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Background

For the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) the concept of community resilience represents a unique opportunity as this approach in many ways captures the totality of what the IFRC is working to achieve. Although their efforts may not have been characterized as 'strengthening community resilience,' this is in fact what many National Societies have been doing over the course of many decades by supporting their local communities.

The IFRC's understanding of community resilience has grown to recognize the ever evolving and dynamic nature of communities and the underlying vulnerabilities that challenge them. Responding to this reality, the IFRC's approach has focused on combining humanitarian concern for imminent threats with longer-term, sustainable approaches and institutional strengthening traditionally associated with development. With an increased ability to adapt and cope with disasters, crises, shocks and stresses communities can protect and build on development gains that they have already made and address the effects of underlying vulnerabilities that challenge them. As being resilient includes being flexible in the face of changing risks, and climate change is increasingly influencing risk patterns everywhere, climate change considerations are an integral element of the Framework for Community Resilience (FCR).

The original Framework for Community Safety and Resilience published in 2008 confirmed that the concepts identified were not new and did not demand new areas of work for the IFRC. Rather the Framework for Community Safety and Resilience suggested that community safety and resilience approaches provided National Societies with an opportunity to build on, enhance and adapt activities they had already been carrying out. This updated FCR reinforces that message. The FCR builds on a foundation of decades of experience, combined with recent learning and research on resilience, while recognizing and proposing responses to some of the major challenges faced by community approaches in strengthening resilience – thus providing the opportunity for a more systematic approach.

The FCR has gone through an extensive consultation process, both within the IFRC and externally. Examples of the consultation undertaken include: dedicated twoday workshops conducted with representatives of 64 National Societies in the four zones; 77 National Societies participated in community resilience workshops at the 2013 IFRC General Assembly; workshops at various internal fora (e.g., with the disaster preparedness and risk reduction group of Partner National Societies and the Stockholm health group); and feedback received from a number of external organizations and private sector partners. Suggestions and recommendations from all of these groups have informed the FCR.

Our global commitments

Building on policies adopted and commitments made at previous statutory meetings, the 2013 IFRC General Assembly issued a declaration concerning the post-2015 Development Agenda, committing the IFRC to helping shape the future development agenda with three commitments:

- enabling every community in high risk areas to have capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters
- **b.** ensuring a volunteer in every community we work with who is responsible for facilitating access to basic health services
- **c.** continuing efforts to strengthen National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to be trusted partners and auxiliaries to their governments in humanitarian and development work.

The declaration specifically noted that 'strengthening resilience should be a central component of the new development framework.'

The 2013 General Assembly also approved:

- A revised set of principles and rules for humanitarian assistance to improve coordination so that together we can maximize the mobilization and impact of Federation-wide resources and expertise.
- 2. A National Society development framework to guide organizational development and capacity building together with a youth engagement strategy on the role of youth in building strong National Societies.



Children in Meulaboh, Indonesia, learn how to clean their teeth. Basic hygiene is an important life skill that strengthens community resilience by improving community health.

International Federation

Objectives

This framework has the principle objective to:

'Establish a foundation on which all IFRC programmes, projects, interventions and actions, across the contexts, which contribute to the strengthening of resilient communities can be created, developed and sustained.'

The FCR has the goal of guiding and supporting the work of National Societies through the following three strategic objectives:

- **1.** Supporting National Societies' efforts to assist communities as they adopt risk-informed, holistic approaches to address their underlying vulnerabilities.
- 2. Supporting National Societies' efforts that encourage communities to adopt demand-driven, people-centred approaches to community resilience strengthening.
- **3.** Supporting National Societies to be connected to communities being available to everyone, everywhere to prevent and reduce human suffering.



Understanding 'resilience'

In common usage resilience typically relates to the ability of systems (and people) to effectively respond and adapt to changing circumstances and to develop skills, capacities, behaviours and actions to deal with adversity – 'resilience' can be described as a process of adaptation before, during and after an adverse event.

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."

The definition recognizes that resilience can be observed and strengthened at multiple levels:

- 1. Individual level: a resilient individual is healthy; has the knowledge, skills, competencies and mind-set to adapt to new situations and improve her/his life, and those of her/his family, friends and community. A resilient person is empowered.
- 2. Household level: a resilient household has members who are themselves resilient
- **3. Community level:** a resilient community strengthens the resilience of its constituent individuals and households.
- **4. Local government:** can either strengthen or weaken resilience at the individual, household and community levels as it is responsible for infrastructure development, maintenance, social services and applying the rule of law.

- **5. National government:** resilience at this level deals with policy, social protection systems, infrastructure, laws and governance issues and can profoundly impact community resilience.
- **6. Organizations such as National Societies** including their branches and volunteers: make contributions that are integral to resilience at all levels.
- 7. Regional and global levels: the impacts of conflicts, violence and insecurity; hunger; mass migration; economic recession and prosperity; pandemics; pollution and climate change; positive and negative effects of globalization and new technology all offer examples of the inter-connectedness of the levels and how actions at one level can negatively or positively impact the other levels.

Resilience is relevant in all countries because all countries have communities that are vulnerable. For the IFRC, resilience relates to all the activities that National Societies carry out, regardless of whether they are domestic or international; it is about improving the sustainability and quality of the programmes and services that National Societies deliver in response to the demands of their communities and the scale at which these programmes and services are undertaken.

Resilience at multiple levels







Household level

Community level













Global level



What is a community?



Understanding communities

The Red Cross and Red Crescent recognizes the richness of the term 'community' and appreciates that communities exist in many shapes and forms. For example the term 'community':

- often refers to a group of people that live in a defined geographical area
- is often a group of people who share a common culture, values and norms and who are arranged according to a social structure that has evolved over time
- might refer to a group at the local, national or international level
- may describe a group of people that come together because of specific or broad interests.

Individuals may belong to more than one community, in fact the more communities that an individual belongs to the more resilient s/he is likely to be.

The IFRC understands that resilience strengthening programmes and activities impact at all levels and in all types of communities. The FCR uses the following definition for community:

"A community is a group of people who may or may not live within the same area, village or neighbourhood, share a similar culture, habits and resources. Communities are groups of people also exposed to the same threats and risks such as disease, political and economic issues and natural disasters."

Communities are complex and dynamic and so are the vulnerabilities that challenge them. There are many factors that influence community resilience (e.g., physical, human, financial, natural and social aspects of life). These factors are also interconnected, which requires that they be considered and understood holistically, through a multi-disciplinary approach which takes account of how factors influence one another.

The IFRC has focused on learning more about the characteristics of a resilient community as a means of better understanding this complexity. By listening to communities' own experiences of resilience, through studies of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami operation, a sample of activities in Latin America and the Caribbean; together with further proposed studies and analysis, the IFRC will develop a much better understanding of what resilience means to communities. This approach will also indicate if the lessons, experiences and successes of individual communities can be replicated elsewhere.

There may be other characteristics that should be considered, particularly in a regional or national context, but those detailed above are offered as a general set of characteristics, applicable in many communities globally.

This appreciation of the complexity and dynamic nature of communities and their vulnerabilities reinforces for the IFRC that the members of the community are most likely to know how things around them work and how their lives can be improved.

A resilient community...



Key elements of the FCR

1. Assisting communities as they adopt risk-informed, holistic approaches to address their underlying vulnerabilities.

The IFRC believes that strengthening community resilience is a process owned by communities – resilience is not something that a National Society can 'do' or 'bring' to individuals or communities. The nature and extent of a National Society's engagement in each community is situational – it reflects a number of specific contextual factors such as: 1) the underlying vulnerabilities and capacities of the community; 2) the community's connection and interaction with the external environment; and 3) the specific added-value that the National Society offers to this process.

For the IFRC, strengthening community resilience is an integrating process that is multi-sectoral and involves multiple actors - it cannot be achieved by governments, organizations or individuals acting alone or in isolation. The IFRC's community resilience strengthening approach also recognizes that the dynamic nature of each community requires a flexible approach that supports the development of resilience over time. Although each context is unique and requires a customized approach, there are a number of consistent management components involving IFRC programmes, volunteers and National Societies.

The IFRC recognizes that programmes developed from risk-informed decisions that adopt a holistic approach are more likely to contribute to reducing the underlying vulnerabilities of communities and ultimately lead to more resilient communities.

Examples of actions National Societies take in support of community-led, risk-informed decision-making include:

- a. Supporting assessments that capture the needs, risks, vulnerabilities and capacities of all members of the community, as well as the dynamic and complex context in which a community exists.
- b. Supporting communities to develop solutions that are: i) holistic and appropriate to their context (e.g., considering innovative and emerging technologies whilst bearing in mind traditional knowledge, customs and practices); ii) technically sound; iii) effective and efficient (e.g., looking for low-tech, low-cost solutions); and iv) sensitive to issues such as gender equality, cultural diversity, climate change and violence prevention.
- **c.** Supporting communities to self-mobilize and address their vulnerabilities and hazards from their own resources.
- **d.** Supporting communities to access external support networks, such as the public authorities, civil society and the international Red Cross Red Crescent network.
- **e.** Actively engaging communities in the monitoring and evaluation of programmes and services.
- **f.** Being accountable to communities, public authorities and other partners (e.g., by proactively providing regular reports, feedback and information relating to programmes, services and activities).

2. Community resilience is about a demand driven, people-centred approach.

Resilient communities are more likely to be empowered, whilst vulnerable communities are more likely to be dis-empowered.

The IFRC's approach to resilience strengthening recognizes that enabling individuals and communities to access what they need to improve their own lives is essential. Examples of how National Societies add value to this process include: providing appropriate technical capacity and resources; linking community and National Society actions with that of the public authorities, other civil society actors and partners; and by advocating for the most vulnerable within communities.

The IFRC strives to ensure that individuals and communities are put first. The IFRC's approach to community resilience strengthening ensures communities are placed at, and remain at the centre of decisions and actions that impact their future and that programmes respond to objectives defined by the community.

Examples of actions National Societies take include:

- a. Engaging with communities through local branches and volunteers and recognizing the potential of volunteers as agents of change within their communities.
- b. Working with and through the formal system (e.g., laws, regulations, codes and standards, etc.) and informal systems (e.g., traditional customs and practice and indigenous knowledge). Supporting the development of disaster risk reduction laws and standards

is an example of working in the formal system, whilst integrating climate and weather information with indigenous knowledge is an example of supporting smallholding farmers in rural settings, achieved through an informal system.

c. Advocating with communities for i) their engagement in decision-making processes; ii) inclusive approaches that take account of the needs of the most vulnerable; iii) context specific issues; and iv) the Red Cross and Red Crescent Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.

A Haitian Red Cross disaster risk management promoter uses a 3D model to explain to children how our actions can trigger disasters, in this case how deforestation can lead to landslides and floods. Gennike Mayers / IFRC



3. Being connected to communities by being available to everyone, everywhere to prevent and reduce human suffering.

The objective of being 'available to everyone, everywhere, to prevent and reduce human suffering' is **not** about doing everything for everyone. Rather the focus is on 'connection' between the community and its National Society.

This connection that National Societies have with their communities is central to efforts in delivering the IFRC's mission to:

- **1.** Save lives, protect livelihoods and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises.
- 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
- **3.** Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Examples of ways in which National Societies establish and maintain this connection include:

- **1.** Ensuring risks that communities face and underlying vulnerabilities existing within communities are understood and considered.
- Supporting the community through services, programmes or interventions that are relevant to the context, are sustainable and that target the most vulnerable.
- **3.** Partnering with the public authorities, civil society and the private sector in support of holistic, integrated, community-led solutions.

New and innovative solutions (e.g., mobile solutions, connectivity, online tools and access to the internet) are emerging and becoming increasingly available in communities around the globe. The opportunities that these provide must be harvested if the IFRC is to be truly 'available to everyone, everywhere, to prevent and reduce human suffering.'

Examples of actions National Societies take to connect with their communities include:

- a. Ensuring an inclusive approach at all levels that welcomes, respects and values contributions from all members of the society, these include: i) branches mobilizing local volunteers including affected people, youth, women and girls, marginalized groups; and ii) including local volunteers on governance bodies.
- **b.** Partnering with the community, civil society and public authorities particularly valuing the unique role of the National Society being an auxiliary to government.
- c. Using communication methods to connect with communities that are appropriate and accessible for community members (e.g., online, sms, radio, newsletters, posters, branch and volunteer meetings, etc).

Using the FCR

The Annex illustrates how IFRC activities contribute to achieving strengthened community resilience and suggests indicators to measure these activities. The table does not provide an exhaustive list nor is it intended to be prescriptive, rather it provides global guidance that can be applied and adapted to local realities.

How to apply the FCR?

1. Explore the three key elements of the FCR



2. Review the information provided in Annex



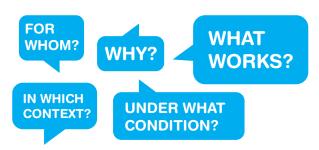
Consider the specific context in which programmes/services are being developed



4. Reflect this analysis in their programme design tools, e.g. Logframe



5. Discuss with your peers:



Measurement of the IFRC's Framework for Community Resilience

The IFRC values and prioritizes performance measurement and evaluation as it informs systematic learning, which in turn supports the exchange of information, the sharing of experience and knowledge and ultimately results in better programming.

The measurement of community resilience is relatively new and is still developing – in contrast to more traditional, sector-based approaches, the same body of experience in its measurement, or consensus for how to measure it does not currently exist. While the IFRC has policies, guidelines, frameworks and tools together with significant capacity and experience in measurement and evaluation of tradi-

tional approaches, it is important to acknowledge the limitations of the current methodologies in measuring community resilience strengthening.

A critical distinction in measuring community resilience relates to assessing 1) a community's level of resilience versus 2) the IFRC's impact on community resilience being measured versus 3) the IFRC's contribution to the community's resilience.

Table 1: Three key measures for community resilience

Measuring community resilience	A composite measure of the various characteristics that comprise community resilience.
2. Measuring IFRC's impact on community resilience	Measurement of the attribution of IFRC's work to community resilience. How much of the measured impact on community resilience is the result of the IFRC's contributions versus other factors?
3. Measuring IFRC's contribution to community resilience	Measurement of the incorporation and achievement of specific activities supporting community resilience strengthening. Whether we accomplish the objectives we identify as supporting community resilience.

Recognizing these challenges and the limitations we are currently working with, the IFRC focuses on measuring our contributions to community resilience (i.e., point 3 in Table 1). The IFRC's measurement system, approach and tools will be updated as, and when, further information and guidance on how to measure and capture both community resilience (point 1 in Table 1) and the IFRC's impact on community resilience (point 2 in Table 1) becomes available.

In measuring our contribution to community resilience, the IFRC adopts a 'mixed methods' approach as this ensures communities are engaged in the development of indicator according to their specific context, which can then be assessed and compared across time and place.

Effectively a menu of indicators, based on and organized from the characteristics of community resilience, can assist communities to select and prioritize key indicators according to their specific local contexts and long-term goals. This complements the tried and true sectoral, technical indicators that have been developed over time and that remain valid as indicators of technical performance accountability to our traditional donors.

Provision can also be made for additional, unexpected indicators to be added if identified by, and appropriate for, the community. Such an approach provides structure while remaining flexible and adaptable to local contexts. Both quantitative and qualitative measures can be utilized in this approach.

This approach reinforces that community resilience strengthening activities require a context specific approach but also recognizes that there are a number of consistent elements that can help us measure the IFRC's contribution.

A good example of this approach is the IFRC's East Africa Framework for Community Resilience. The framework was developed in 2013 and 2014 through targeted literature review, consultations with regional and Partner National Societies and external partners, and operationalizes the concepts and principles described in the FCR in the specific context of IFRC's work in East Africa.

As our experience in community resilience strengthening deepens, so too will our understanding of measuring community resilience grow. More guidance and tools will become available over time to support programme managers and measurement and evaluation specialists in their efforts to measure IFRC's contributions to strengthening community resilience.

IFRC tools and guidelines that support community resilience

National Societies already have many of the tools required in implementing community resilience strengthening. Some tools may require adaptation to better reflect the approach described in the FCR and the need for replacement or additional tools and guidance may emerge as our experience evolves and develops over time Many National Societies have developed their own context-specific guidance on community resilience (e.g., by adapting the 2008 Framework for Community Safety and Resilience to their operations). National Societies are encouraged to consider the FCR and to explore how the guidance it provides can be customized to support their efforts within their communities

Conclusion

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Just as the 2008 Framework for Community Safety and Resilience has evolved into the FCR, this current framework will evolve dynamically as we collectively learn to improve our programmes and scale-up our contributions to community resilience. The sharing of experiences and lessons learned will help to maintain the FCR's currency and relevance. Additionally, regular review of the FCR will ensure that it continues to provide guidance and support to National Societies.

Additional resources and guidance for resilience strengthening exist and are available and complement the many resources and tools identified in this document. It is likely that more will be developed over time and some existing tools will be replaced as our knowledge and experience grows.

Practitioners are encouraged to capture, record and share their experiences of community resilience strengthening within the IFRC's network as a tangible contribution to improving the lives of the most vulnerable.

RCRC Contributions to Strengthening Community Resilience

Examples of Indicators	 # of VCA and sector specific assessments conducted # of community contingency plans in place. # of simulation exercises conducted. # people reached through PAPE. # people trained in DRR, CBHFA, PASSA, etc. # of community with early warning systems in place. # of emergency stocks in place. 	 # opportunities for sharing knowledge and experience. # training workshops and people trained. # people involved in programme/project implementation. M&E results used to inform the improvement of community programmes/projects. 	 % of population with access to safe water supply. # & % of people who know how to prepare safe drinking water. # & % of people reached through hygiene promotion. sanitation systems. # water-borne disease outbreaks. 	 # of farmers and fishers provided with extension services # of farmers and fishers attended field schools # of people trained in food preparation and preservation # of people reached through education and awareness on food loss and waste reduction
Examples of NS Contribution	 Holistic assessment of needs, risks, vulnerabilities and capacities of communities through participatory VCA, baseline survey, etc. Contingency plans. Simulation exercises. Public awareness and public education in risk reduction, disaster laws, evacuation plans, climate change, etc. Training in risk reduction, first aid, safe shelter awareness Early warning systems. Appropriate deployment of emergency stocks. 	 Knowledge and experience sharing. Training opportunities. Community involvement in programmes/projects. Monitoring and evaluation 	Safe water systems.Hygiene promotion.Sanitation systems.	 Extension support services Food security field schools for exchange of experiences Food preparation and preservation Post-harvest food losses and waste reduction
Expected Outcomes	Community people are able to assess and manage the risks facing them.	Everyone has opportunities to learn new skills, build on past experiences, and share and apply this knowledge in practice.	Everyone has access to a sustainable water and sanitation system.	Everyone has access to a secure and nutritious food supply.
Objective	Improve the knowledge and health of communities.			

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Examples of Indicators	 % of people with access to health services. # of people with access to health insurance. Mortality rates, by cause. % in reduction of lifestyle related diseases/illnesses (NCDs). % of at risk population screened for chronic diseases. Morbidity rates, by cause. Prevalence of behavioural risk factors. Immunization rates. # people who receive psychological/psychosocial support. 	 # RCRC branches. # people reached through the dissemination of Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values. # people aware of RCRC violence prevention programmes. % reduction in domestic/gender based violence cases incidence of violence in the community. Formal RCRC role in public authority plans. # people involved in assessment and planning of community programmes/projects. # vulnerable (e.g. marginalized) people included in formal and informal networks. # of active volunteers. # of active volunteers engaged in formal and informal networks. # of partnerships. # people reached through public awareness raising about good governance practice, accountability and transparency. # people reached through their behaviours as a result of RCRC promotion # youth engaged in YABC
Examples of NS Contribution	 Programmes link with the formal health system through referral system, ambulance services, safe blood supply, etc. Promotion of healthy lifestyles. Screen for chronic diseases. Immunization campaigns. Psychological/Psychosocial support. 	 Promotions and dissemination of the RCRC Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values. Promotion of violence prevention. Community organization. Community involvement in assessment and planning of programmes/projects. Promotion of social inclusion activities and projects. Branch and volunteer engagement in community activities. Partnership with local public authorities and other stakeholders to improve the community safety, social cohesion, inclusiveness, etc. Advocacy for the needs of vulnerable people and stigmatised groups. Advocacy for effective leadership and good governance Promotion of behavioural change through key messages and public education. Engagement of youth as agents of Behaviour Change (YABC).
Expected Outcomes	Everyone has access to health system resources.	Communities provide protection and security for all of their members and have the capacity to draw on formal and informal community networks of support to identify problems, needs and opportunities, establish priorities and act for the good and inclusion of all in the communities.
Objective		Strengthen the social cohesion of communities.

 # Public infrastructure plans and investments are disaster risk informed. Community engagement in infrastructure planning. Building codes and land use standards that consider disaster risk reduction and environmental concerns. 	 # of public awareness and public education programmes. # of trainings, number of participants. # of urban and community plans incorporating public space, parks, and public transportation standards. Incidence of road accidents. # of people killed or injured in road accidents 	 % of people with access to safe shelter Buildings comply with building codes, rules and land use standards. # & % of people who know the safety elements of their home Affordability of shelter # & % of people reached through safe shelter awareness training or activities # & % or people with secure tenure and legal protection of their assets. 		 Accessibility and affordability of transport and energy systems. 	 # of people supported through livelihoods programmes. # of people who have benefitted from vocational and skills training and active in business. cale Unemployment rate, standard of living of community, etc. 	# peer-to-peer programmes conducted# participants in peer to peer programmes
 Advocate for education and health facilities to be built in safe areas. Advocate for and promote the development and full implementation of good disaster laws, regulatory systems, building codes and standards, and well planned built environments. 	 Public awareness and public education programmes. Provide training and peer-to-peer education to enhance skills and knowledge. Influence urban and community planning for more public space, parks, public transportation. Promote road safety. 	 Safe and affordable physical structures Shelter safety awareness Security of tenure (renting, leasing, ownership, etc.) Advocate and promote the development of safe settlements and well planned built environments. 	Advocate for large scale urban water and sanitation infrastructure.	 Advocate for community access to reliable and affordable transport and energy systems 	 Livelihood programming. Vocational and skills training. Income generation activities (petty trading, livestock production and marketing, small scale vocational activities etc.) 	 Peer-to-peer education to enhance skills and knowledge.
Communities have well- planned, well-maintained and accessible infrastructure and services.	Communities have the ability or support to use, maintain, repair and renovate the public infrastructure and systems.	Communities have appropriate – safe, secure and affordable shelter,		 transport and energy systems. 	Communities provide a diverse range of employment and income opportunities.	Communities are flexible and resourceful.
Develop well-maintained and accessible infrastructure and services in communities.					Provide economic opportunities to community people.	

Objective	Expected Outcomes	Examples of NS Contribution	Examples of Indicators
	Communities have the capacity to accept uncertainty and respond (proactively) to change.	 Encourage community to incorporate new knowledge and technology, share traditional livelihoods, food and nutrition strategies. 	 Awareness of and understanding of new knowledge and technology and traditional methods and approaches.
Manage natural assets.	Communities recognise the value of their natural assets.	 Educate communities about natural asset use issues related to disaster risk Promote environmentally responsible urban planning and land use 	 Level of understanding of environmental issues and consequences of mismanagement. # of urban plans that incorporate environmental measures.
	Communities manage their natural assets.	 Support environmentally responsible livelihoods activities, food production, etc. Pursue environmentally responsible construction practices. Environmental conservation initiatives, e.g. tree planting, environment-friendly sanitation, reduction of carbon footprints, energy saving, etc. 	 # of environmentally responsible livelihoods, food security, etc. projects. Reduction in environment degradation as a result of inappropriate land use, shelter construction, etc. Use of sustainable building products and materials. # environmental conservation projects.
	Communities have the ability to protect, enhance and maintain their natural assets.	 Public awareness, public education and advocacy programmes. Promotion of effective environmental regulation related to risk (e.g., regulation of logging, wetlands preservation, solid and toxic waste disposal, integration of DRR in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)). 	 # people reached through PAPE. carbon footprint. # of new environmental rules/plans supporting DRR # of EIAS integrating DRR
Strengthen the connected-ness of communities.	Communities have the capacity and capabilities to sustain and build on good relationships with a range of external actors who can provide a wider supportive environment.	 RCRC role in holistic community plans at all levels (community, local government and national). Ability of NS to mobilize physical and financial resources 	 Community plans with clearly defined RC role. # and value of resources mobilized.
	Communities have access to a network of external actors willing/able to supply tangible and intangible forms of support to the community.	 NS networking with IFRC and sister NSs. Partnerships with different stakeholders. Advocacy for adequate public funding for community resilience strengthening programmes. 	 # partners, standing agreements for support/ cooperation, etc. Support (resources, technical support, etc.) attracted.

The Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Humanity The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

Impartiality It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours 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 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. The 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 It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

Unity There can be only one Red Cross or 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 International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.

Further information is available from:

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