Red Cross and Red Crescent Commitments to implement the Sendai Framework for DRR in Asia Pacific (2018 – 2020)

Commitments made at the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), Mongolia, July 2018

Understanding Disaster Risk

• 50% of National Societies will have strengthened volunteer networks and systems to collect and analyse sex and age disaggregated data, to carry out more inclusive programming and advocacy for legislative and policy change.
• We will better understand disaster, social, health and displacement risks and their impact through supporting volunteers to undertake community level climate-smart risk and vulnerability assessments.
• We will always involve local stakeholders in public awareness, campaigns and public education and action that enhances knowledge to reduce current and prevent future disaster risk. As local volunteer-based organisations, we will continue to champion local expertise and knowledge sharing through peer to peer exchange in the region.

Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

• All National Societies will engage with their governments and key stakeholders at national and subnational levels, to support the development, revision and implementation of relevant laws and regulations as well as DRR strategies, thereby contributing to achieving Target (e) by 2020.
• All National Societies and IFRC will significantly increase their efforts to identify, support and promote women into 50% of senior leadership and governance positions and decision-making platforms.
• National Societies will meaningfully engage women, at risk and marginalised groups in disaster risk management decision making processes, to ensure that their specific needs are considered and potential optimised in planning and programming. We will provide support to governments to review and develop relevant laws, regulations and plans to incorporate protection, gender and inclusion concerns, with a focus on sexual and gender based violence in disasters.

Invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience

• Under the One Billion Coalition for Resilience we will engage youth and diverse groups from the public, business, and academia and in governments to champion community resilience and invest in local action, enabling National Societies to double our initiatives in community led climate-smart DRR action and livelihoods.
• We will establish partnerships in ten countries to support the development of innovative local level risk financing mechanisms, including insurance, Forecast-based Financing and social protection schemes.
• We will scale up our community led urban disaster risk reduction programmes with the support of our Manila based Urban Hub and the Asia Pacific Disaster Resilience Centre to support communities in cities to meet the challenges of an increasingly urban Asia Pacific.

Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

• We will double our investment in people-centred, evidence informed early warning early action, this will include development of Early Action Protocols by ten National Societies to make them FbF ready.
• We commit to ensuring environmental sustainability of emergency response by protecting the environment which communities depend on, thereby reducing risk and vulnerability to future disasters and the impacts of our changing climate. We will continue to advocate and mobilize communities, humanitarians, conservation practitioners, government officials and donors to incorporate environmental sustainability aspects into disaster and complex emergency responses.
• We will enable and promote our youth leaders to act as agents of behavioural change to reduce risks in their own communities and to take active part in developing youth-led school safety initiatives.
• We will strive to ensure our preparedness for response and recovery activities consider the specific needs of displaced persons, refugees and migrants and other at-risk populations, including sexual and gender-based violence survivors.
• We will work with communities to build back better, through risk-informed approaches ensuring engagement and accountability to them, as well as support local pre-disaster recovery planning.
• We will invest resources to ensure that all National Societies are cash ready to undertake anticipatory action prior to disaster and crises, timely disaster response and community led sustainable recovery.