We need to scale up risk reduction and preparedness now, prioritizing the most vulnerable people and ensuring no one is left behind. This means that we need to get our priorities right, use forecast science more intelligently to respond faster and more effectively integrate and localize our approaches.

Recent epidemics like COVID-19 and climate disasters have shown that we must step up investment in preparedness now instead of waiting for the next crisis to hit. We know that investing in disaster preparedness is worth it – both in terms of human lives saved and economic returns.

National Societies around the world are working to improve their preparedness to face epidemics, floods, storms, droughts and wildfires that are becoming more frequent and severe, in addition to other protracted and complex emergencies affecting hundreds of millions of people each year. Check the World Disasters Report 2020

"The need to prepare for a world of unexpected shocks has become clearer than ever. Epidemics, floods, storms, droughts, and wildfires are all expected to become more frequent and severe, affecting hundreds of millions of people each year."
Jagan Chapagain, IFRC Secretary-General

Welcome to this new National Society Preparedness Newsletter!

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EXPERIENCES FROM NATIONAL SOCIETIES

**AMERICAS**

Central America: Responding to two powerful hurricanes in the midst of a pandemic. [Read more](#)

**MENA**

Case Study: Chemical Explosion Beirut Port. Technological and Biological (CBRN) Hazard Preparedness. [Read more](#)

**AFRICA**

Consultation Report: Barriers and opportunities for a multi-hazards humanitarian approach. [Read more](#)

**EUROPE**

Strengthening preparedness for disasters, increasing the most vulnerable people's resilience, and saving lives are key areas of work of the Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies across Europe. [Read more](#)

**ASIA PACIFIC**

Case Study: Strengthening capacities of National Societies in emergency WASH response and preparedness. [Read more](#)
This Preparedness section and the four dashboards are a cutting-edge tool that allows us to monitor the response capacity of National Societies to crises and disasters and take actions to improve it, working on their strengths and gaps.

With an innovative and easy-to-follow design, you will be able to quickly visualize many data about response capacity, and what needs to be improved. Access the four dashboards here: Global Summary, Global Performance, Catalogue of Resources, and Operational Learning.

Preparedness section in GO Platform

Being prepared to respond to crises and disasters is critical to saving lives. To explain how relevant is National Society Preparedness and the Preparedness for Effective Response approach, we would like to introduce you to Mia, a member of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies first response team.

Watch the video

Mia presents a new short video about National Society Preparedness

Preparedness for Effective Response (PER)

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