

Renewing Investment in Africa: Nairobi Plan of Action

We, the leaders of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Africa, gathered in Nairobi from 16 to 19 September 2023 at the 10th Pan-African Conference of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,

Paying tribute to the Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers and staff who have lost their lives in the service of humanity;

Recalling fulfilled and outstanding commitments made at the previous Pan-African Conferences, including the Addis Ababa Plan of Action adopted at the 8th Pan-African Conference in 2012;

Building on the Abidjan Plan of Action adopted at the 9th Pan-African Conference in 2017, and commitments made under Strategy 2030;

Recognizing the urgent humanitarian impact of climate change, increased prevalence and intensity of cyclones, floods and drought, and their effect on food insecurity;

Recognizing also the increased risk of epidemics, pandemics and public health crises, and their impact on human wellbeing, health systems and the economy;

Acknowledging the above challenges and insecurity, resulting in significant population movement and reduced socio-economic opportunities for youth;

Emphasizing the need for diversity and inclusion, particularly increased women leadership, in our National Societies;

Valuing the convening power of the Red Cross Red Crescent brand, collective impact, and the potential that Africa's resources and demographic dividend offer to expand domestic support to our humanitarian and development actions;

Determined to scale up and access development and climate funding through Pan-African initiatives, to meet the current challenges communities face;

Focusing on investment in National Societies, to ensure long-term sustainability as trusted, principled and effective local actors;

We commit collectively and individually to grow people centric domestic investment in African National Societies, and implement, and advocate for support to this plan of action.

Nairobi commitments

Key actions

- 1. Increase the scale and impact of our local humanitarian actions to meet the expectations of our brand, by ensuring accountability, fostering trust, and strengthening volunteerism and updating our legal base.
- Develop minimum standards of effective National Societies and branches, and implement a transformative plan for networks, to improve the quality of governance and management.
- 3. Scale up the National Society development planning and implement solutions for financial sustainability, including core cost recovery mechanism, and a peer-to-peer exchange programme to support digitalisation, financial innovation, and risk management.
- 4. Invest in women leadership, improve gender balance, diversity and inclusion of our National Societies, attract talented leadership, volunteers and staff, strengthen youth participation in our decision-making structures at all levels, and allocate resources for local youth actions.
- 5. Increase the resilience of African communities by rolling out National Society-led scale up plans, which are jointly developed with governments¹ and in line with Pan-African initiatives that support country priorities and meet community needs.

Commit to expand and strengthen peer support mechanisms, such as the Africa Governance Group (AGG) and regional networks.

Deepen the strategic collaboration with African Union and its relevant agencies including the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the Africa Humanitarian Agency, and Regional Economic Commissions.

Together, we will strengthen our auxiliary role, secure our assets, improve visibility of our activities, expand strategic and domestic partnerships, and raise diverse resources, including from private capital, to meet the increasing humanitarian and development needs on the continent.

These key actions and other anticipatory actions will lead to self-driven African National Societies that are able to meet expectations of the communities and our volunteers.

Key indicators

The following key indicators have been identified to measure progress against the Nairobi Plan of Action:

Indicator 1a: The humanitarian income of the National Society as a percentage (at least ten percent or more) share of the annual humanitarian funding available in the country.

Indicator 1b: Percentage increase in the total and active number of volunteers of the National Society and change in their retention rate in any one year.

¹ For example, Resilient and Empowered African Community Health (REACH) initiative, Global Route-Based Migration Programme and Hunger Resilience multi-country programme.

- Indicator 2: Number and percentage of the National Societies and their branches that are publishing on Federation-wide databank and reporting system (FDRS) annual reports and audited financial statements.
- **Indicator 3a:** Number and percentage of the National Societies with more than 50 per cent of their annual income generated domestically.
- **Indicator 3b:** Number and percentage of the National Societies with core cost recovery policy.
- **Indicator 4a:** Number of National Societies with at least 30% women representation in leadership positions at all levels within the next five years.
- **Indicator 4b:** Number of National Societies with resources allocation for youth led programmes, and policies and statutes in place for active participation in decision making at all levels.
- Indicator 5: The number of people reached by the National Society as a percentage (at least ten percent or more) share of the total number of people in need of humanitarian support in the country.

In support of these indicators, African National Societies will:

- Maintain and improve the Africa Governance Group (AGG) as a peer review body with oversight responsibility for monitoring overall governance among African National Societies.
- Request Pan-African Coordination Team (PACT), under the guidance of AGG, to prepare appropriate measurement tools to enable National Societies to effectively measure progress against this plan of action.
- Request the AGG to review the composition, structure, and functions of the pan-African coordination team, in consultation with African National Society.
- Report against the Nairobi Plan of Action indicators, coordinated by the PACT on an annual basis.

Acknowledgement

The leadership of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of Africa and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies wish to express their warmest thanks and appreciation to the leadership, staff, and volunteers of the Kenya Red Cross Society, for their warm hospitality and excellent organization of the 10th Pan-African Conference, and to the government of Kenya for its continued and invaluable commitment towards humanitarian action.

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