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WHY IS IT RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF THE RED CROSS RED CRESCENT
MOVEMENT AND THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR?

Why is it relevant to the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and the humanitarian sector?

Climate change impacts are intensifying, disproportionately affecting those who are already most vulnerable. In fragile and conflict-affected settings, these impacts intersect with ongoing violence and instability, placing even greater strain on already overburdened humanitarian actors and systems. Cumulative needs are coupling as countries reel under the impacts of compounding crises. Under such circumstances, based on the advantages discussed above, it is increasingly practical for anticipatory action actors including National Societies to consider social protection as a tool for delivering timely humanitarian assistance, at scale. At the same time, it offers a strategic pathway towards supporting structures for Red Cross Red Crescent partners.

When implementing anticipatory action through social protection initiatives, National Societies can play a crucial role as a key partner for governments, humanitarian and development organizations, as well as donors. They can assist national governments, leveraging extensive networks of volunteers, including those in hard-to-reach areas where government presence may be limited. With representation at the village, district, and national levels, their auxiliary function, combined with experience, networks, community outreach, and expertise, enables them to contribute to the enhancement of social protection systems in a number of ways:

Be quicker

by being flexible, agile and adaptive, present and ready to respond.



Reach those in need

by using community engagement, reaching remote areas and advocating on behalf of vulnerable people.



Reduce duplication

by improving and extending the systems that target who is eligible to receive assistance and register people for the various programmes.



Be more cost effective

by using their existing networks of volunteers, existing national capacity and experience of creating agile mechanisms.



Be more predictable

by helping improve early warning systems, connecting with community preparedness initiatives and increasing the use of early action protocols.



Be more sustainable

by linking with longer-term programmes, drawing on other National Society experiences and drawing on existing relationships with community groups and other key stakeholders including local and national government structures

