



SINGAPORE

# 2025-2026

## Singapore Red Cross' International Humanitarian Impact & Outlook



# Contents

- 01 Introduction
- 02 A Year of International Humanitarian Action
- 04 How Is the Humanitarian Landscape Changing?
- 05 Strengthening Humanitarian Capacity
- 06 Working Together for Humanity
- 08 From Singapore to the World
- 09 Looking Ahead

Year after year, the global community responds to crises with immense generosity. Yet, we must confront an uncomfortable truth: reacting only after the disaster strikes is no longer enough. As we look toward humanity beyond today, we face a landscape fractured by protracted crises, accelerating climate realities, and a pervasive sense of compassion fatigue. The sheer volume of concurrent global crises risks desensitising the world, making resources scarcer when needs peak.

In response, our collective approach must evolve—humanitarian action today cannot simply be about emergency response, but about foresight. Investing in preparedness, partnerships and resilience is no longer a secondary strategy. It is central to how the Singapore Red Cross’ Global Engagement division strengthens communities and advances humanitarian action in an increasingly complex world. We believe true resilience is built in the quieter periods, nurtured by strategic humanitarian influence that keeps dialogue alive, and anchored in the deep trust we cultivate with local communities and partners.

To that end, our Humanitarian Impact & Outlook is more than a reflection of the past year; it is a blueprint of how we work and continuously improve our engagement with communities. While various initiatives and programs over the past year have granted us the opportunity to expand our impact, the stories and numbers shared beyond these pages remain just a speck within the vast expanse of global humanitarian needs.

# A Year of International Humanitarian Action

From August 2025 to August 2026, Singapore Red Cross (SRC) responded to humanitarian needs across Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America through fundraising appeals, cash contributions and long-term rebuilding and recovery projects. Beyond providing immediate relief following earthquakes, floods and conflicts, SRC supported communities by restoring essential services, rebuilding livelihoods, strengthening food security, expanding access to healthcare, education and WASH, and strengthening the capacities of sister National Societies and communities.

Working alongside Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement as well as local ground partners and communities, these efforts spanned the humanitarian continuum, from emergency response and recovery to preparedness and capacity building.

Relief Assistance

Health

WASH

Shelter & Reconstruction

Livelihoods

Mobile Health / Education Unit

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

Child & Community Support

Drone Training

Preparedness & Capacity Building

Education Support

Overseas Humanitarian Programme

7

APPEALS LAUNCHED

\$2.53M

RAISED<sup>1</sup> (as of 31 Jul 2026)

21

COUNTRIES SUPPORTED

40,000+

PERSONS REACHED<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Amount is in Singapore Dollars. Estimated based on available project information for activities undertaken during the reporting period.  
<sup>2</sup>Some projects report persons reached as households or families.

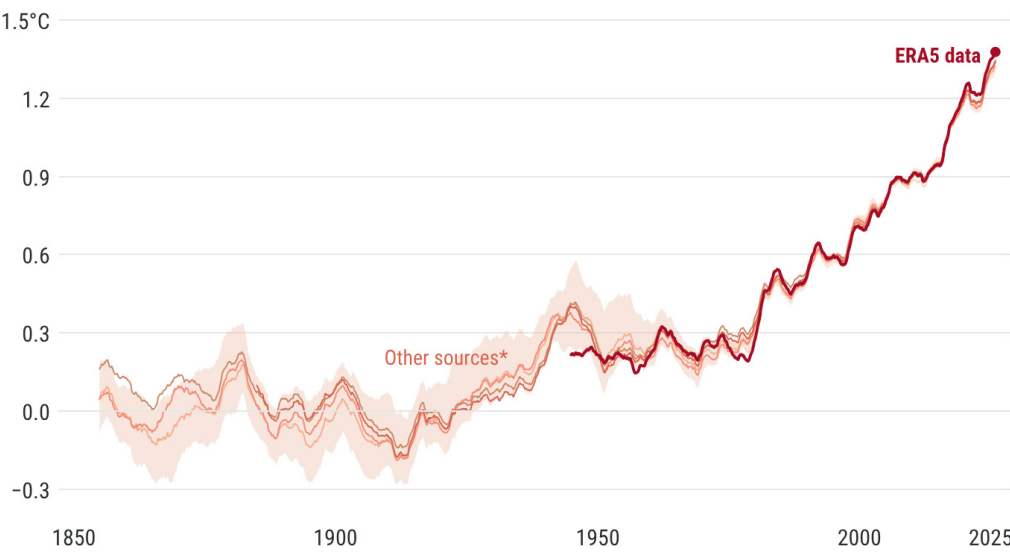
# How Is the Humanitarian Landscape Changing?

Disasters have become more frequent and intense, disease outbreaks continue to emerge and spread in new ways, and humanitarian needs continue to grow amid reductions in global aid.

Traditionally, disaster and disease outbreak risks have often been addressed through separate preparedness and response systems. Today, however, these risks are increasingly interconnected. Floods can trigger disease outbreaks, extreme heat places additional strain on health systems, and droughts contribute to food insecurity, water shortages and worsening health outcomes.

Climate-related shocks can simultaneously increase health needs while disrupting healthcare, disease surveillance, water, electricity and other essential services. As communities face multiple overlapping risks, resilience will require integrated approaches that consider disaster, health and climate risks together.

**Global surface temperature: increase above pre-industrial**  
Reference period: pre-industrial (1850-1900) • Credit: CS3/ECMWF



\*Other sources comprise JRA-3Q, GISTEMPv4, NOAA GlobalTempv6, Berkeley Earth and the HadCRUT5 ensemble mean. Shading shows the range of the HadCRUT5 ensemble.



**1.3-1.4°C**  
above pre-industrial  
(2021-2025 average)



**0.21°C**  
average warming per  
decade since 1979

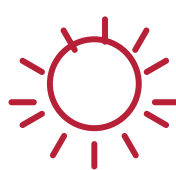


**11**  
warmest years on  
record (2015-2025)

Climate change is warming oceans and the atmosphere, fuelling extreme weather while reshaping where, when and how infectious diseases emerge and spread. In 2025, half of the world's population experienced more days than average with at least strong heat stress, while almost every region recorded high-impact or extreme rainfall. Across Asia, successive hydrometeorological events caused widespread damage and fatalities. Rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns can expand the geographical range and transmission season of vector-borne diseases such as dengue and malaria, while flooding and disruptions to clean water access increase the risk of waterborne diseases, including cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases.



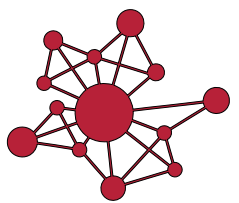
**6 major typhoons struck the Philippines within a month**



**El Niño could intensify global heat into 2027**



**Global aid declined despite rising needs**



**Health risks are increasingly interconnected**

As disease patterns become increasingly influenced by changing environmental conditions, surveillance and early warning systems will be critical to detecting shifts in disease transmission before larger outbreaks occur. With persistently high temperatures and the onset of El Niño, extreme weather and changing disease risks are expected to intensify into 2027.

Compounding disasters are also becoming more common, increasing the scale and complexity of humanitarian needs. In 2025, the Philippines experienced six major typhoons within a month, while monsoon rains following earthquakes in Afghanistan and Myanmar increased landslide and flood risks, complicating relief and recovery efforts. These overlapping hazards can also increase disease risks, with flooding contaminating water sources while warm temperatures and stagnant water create favourable conditions for vector-borne diseases.

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Climate change is increasing the complexity and interconnectedness of disaster events and disease outbreaks by amplifying existing social, environmental and health vulnerabilities. Growing humanitarian needs coincide with reductions in global aid, leading the IFRC, UN agencies and humanitarian organisations to scale back operations.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, longer recovery periods and reduced humanitarian capacity leave communities increasingly vulnerable to future crises.

Southeast Asia is particularly exposed to climate-related disaster and health risks. Beyond their immediate impacts, these hazards increasingly affect mental health and wellbeing, livelihoods, food security, shelter and access to essential services, further compounding humanitarian needs.

## WHY IT MATTERS

To navigate an increasingly interconnected disaster and disease risk landscape, humanitarian action must move beyond planning for individual hazards or outbreaks. Preparedness should adopt collaborative, proactive and communitycentred approaches that adapt to evolving risks, preparedness gaps, and the spread of misinformation and disinformation, while recognising communities as active partners in anticipating, detecting and responding to threats.

Investing in local capacities enables earlier action, faster recovery and proactive risk reduction, reducing the human, social and economic impacts of future crises. Strengthening climate resilience also strengthens the capacities needed to anticipate, detect and respond to infectious disease threats, making climate resilience and pandemic preparedness mutually reinforcing investments.

*These observations are drawn from ongoing research and analysis conducted together with the Singapore Red Cross Disaster Awareness Working Group and Centre of Excellence for Pandemic Preparedness Workgroup, volunteer-led workgroups that monitor global disaster, humanitarian and public health developments, emerging risks and preparedness.*

<sup>3</sup>Red Cross and Red Crescent cuts aid appeal despite surging global crises, 2025

# Strengthening Humanitarian Capacity

Building resilient communities begins long before disasters occur. Alongside humanitarian response efforts, SRC invested in strengthening the capabilities of sister National Societies, volunteers and communities across Southeast Asia through humanitarian diplomacy, technical training, community outreach and regional knowledge exchange, first aid and psychosocial support.



### Drone Refresher Training

With the Timor-Leste Red Cross, SRC introduced drone mapping techniques in Timor-Leste, strengthening disaster assessment and emergency response capabilities.

### Bhutan Red Cross Partnership

Through its partnership with the Bhutan Red Cross Society, SRC supported First Aid Community Response Teams across 21 branches, strengthening first aid capacity nationwide.

### Overseas Humanitarian Programme

Working with The Learning Farm in Indonesia, SRC reached 354 persons through first aid, health education and disaster preparedness activities.



### Psychological First Aid Training of Trainers

In Hanoi, SRC and the Vietnam Red Cross trained 20 staff and volunteers to deliver Psychological First Aid across the National Society.

### Southeast Asia IHL Workshop

Hosted by SRC with the ICRC in Singapore, the workshop brought together 11 National Societies to strengthen regional understanding of International Humanitarian Law.

### Train. Assess. Facilitate. (TAF)

Co-organised by the IFRC, SRC and the Malaysian Red Crescent in Kuala Lumpur, TAF strengthened facilitation skills across 12 National Societies.

### Centre of Excellence for Pandemic Preparedness (CoEPP)

Strengthened pandemic preparedness across Southeast Asia through regional collaboration, technical training and community engagement. Capacity-building initiatives included the Pandemic Readiness Enhancement Programme (PREP) for healthcare practitioners, the Friends of CoEPP Dialogue for National Societies, the Heat, Haze and Health programme for local communities, and a partnership with Asia Dengue Voice & Action (ADVA) to strengthen regional dengue preparedness.

# Working Together for Humanity

Humanitarian action is made possible through collaboration. Throughout the year, donors and partners enabled Singapore Red Cross to strengthen emergency response, recovery and preparedness.

These partnerships illustrate the many ways collaboration strengthened humanitarian action.



**\$168K**  
RAISED<sup>4</sup>

Together with Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation (RLAF), SRC raised \$168,238 through a joint fundraising campaign for the Afghanistan and Pakistan humanitarian crisis.



**PANDEMIC & DENGUE PREPAREDNESS**

Established a strategic partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen regional pandemic and dengue preparedness.

The collaboration included the United Against Dengue webinar, engaging 125 regional stakeholders, and CoEPP's participation in the Singapore Dengue Alliance.



**670**

**HOUSEHOLD RELIEF KITS**

Working with the Lao Red Cross, SRC strengthened disaster preparedness by pre-positioning 670 household relief kits ahead of the monsoon season.

This proactive effort supported approximately 3,350 people in flood-prone communities before disasters struck.

Beyond these highlights, Singapore Red Cross extends its gratitude to every donor, partner, National Society, volunteer and supporter whose generosity, expertise and collaboration made humanitarian action possible throughout the year.

<sup>4</sup>Amount is in Singapore Dollars.



## From Singapore to the World

Humanitarian action extends beyond responding to crises. It is strengthened through the exchange of knowledge, perspectives and partnerships across borders. As humanitarian challenges become increasingly interconnected, Singapore Red Cross continues to contribute to regional and international humanitarian efforts by facilitating dialogue, supporting capacity strengthening and fostering partnerships across the Movement and beyond.

### Connecting Perspectives

Meaningful dialogue strengthens shared understanding and collective action. Through conferences, dialogues, exhibitions, IHL initiatives and strategic engagements, SRC convened and contributed to regional platforms bringing together governments, National Societies, Movement partners, academia and humanitarian practitioners.

#### *Better Together Dialogue*

A regional dialogue that has catalysed initiatives including CoEPP, which strengthens regional pandemic preparedness, and the Better Together Solidarity Fund, which supports collaborative humanitarian initiatives.

#### *International Humanitarian Law*

SRC promoted understanding of IHL through the IHL Youth Dialogue and the Southeast Asia IHL Workshop, co-hosted with the ICRC, which brought together 11 National Societies.

### Strengthening Humanitarian Capacity

Preparedness depends on sustained investment in knowledge, skills and partnerships. Through technical exchanges, training, peer learning and regional initiatives, SRC contributed to capacity strengthening with National Societies and humanitarian partners.

Regional initiatives such as the Pandemic Response Executive Programme (PREP) and the Train. Assess. Facilitate. (TAF) supported peer learning, technical exchanges and professional networks that strengthened preparedness across the region.

The humanitarian sector is transitioning into an era defined by structural transformation rather than incremental reform, driven by a convergence of risks that forces a fundamental reconsideration of its core purpose. Moving forward, navigating this profound transformation requires moving past traditional assumptions regarding stable donor funding, operational coordination, technological disruptions, and declining commitments toward humanitarian causes.

Today, global humanitarian needs are increasingly driven by two man-made, potentially reversible crises. Protracted conflict has nearly doubled in average duration from 16 years in 1990 to more than 30 years by 2020, contributing to a record number of armed conflicts marked by disregard for international humanitarian law.<sup>5</sup> Climate change continues to intensify disasters in already vulnerable communities.

Looking ahead, the insights garnered from this year's humanitarian week serve as a vital entry point for deeper collaboration both within and outside the sector. Reshaping this broader operational framework relies entirely on prioritising collective action and sustained investment today, ensuring local communities remain strong and future humanitarian action is structurally equipped for the long term.

<sup>5</sup> The Long Aftermath of Armed Conflicts, The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 2021.



**SINGAPORE RED CROSS SOCIETY**