

# International Programs



**9** National Societies received Australian Red Cross support to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.



**22** international disaster and crisis response operations received support from Australian Red Cross.



**57** Australian Red Cross international delegates were deployed to 25 countries.



**\$8.2 million** in humanitarian funding was mobilised to support responses to major international disasters and armed conflicts, including in Ukraine, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Vanuatu, and Myanmar.

## Leading with local expertise

When disasters or crises strike across the globe, Australian Red Cross stands ready to assist our Red Cross and Red Crescent National Society partners. Over the last 12 months, we supported 22 international disaster and crisis response operations; contributed to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery activities for nine National Societies; deployed 3,672 tonnes of humanitarian relief supplies across the Pacific; and mobilised \$8.2 million in humanitarian funding to support international emergencies. At the request of the Movement, we also deployed 47 specialist delegates with expertise in protection, water, engineering, emergency operations coordination, and clinical health, among others, and supported 10 others to either attend training or use their expertise to train others.

We take no side other than the side of humanity. We call on all parties to uphold international humanitarian law, ensuring the protection of civilians, critical infrastructure, healthcare, and humanitarian workers and their facilities.

## Strengthening local humanitarian action across the Asia Pacific

In December 2024, we concluded a five-year program with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to strengthen first responders to deliver more effective and efficient humanitarian assistance in the Asia Pacific region. The third DFAT partnership of its kind, this program was delivered via multi-year partnerships with nine Red Cross National Societies in Fiji, Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, and Vanuatu and backed by \$55.3 million in DFAT core partnership funding. Additional DFAT funding for regional and global responses and initiatives brought the total investment to more than \$108 million.

The program was focused on strengthening local humanitarian actors, enabling them to lead and sustain humanitarian efforts within their communities. This approach ensured that humanitarian assistance was both responsive to local needs and sustainable over the long term, an emphasis that proved critical during the COVID-19 pandemic when border closures and travel restrictions limited regional and global surge capabilities.

Over its lifecycle, the program addressed pressing humanitarian challenges in the Asia Pacific region, including connecting 49 million people in our region and around the globe with emergency assistance. This included almost 27.5 million people in the Asia Pacific who accessed disaster response and early recovery programs through their local National Society and more than 21.6 million who received help elsewhere in the world. This work has allowed Australian Red Cross to transition from delivering direct project implementation to fostering equitable international partnerships that are centred on long-term programming.



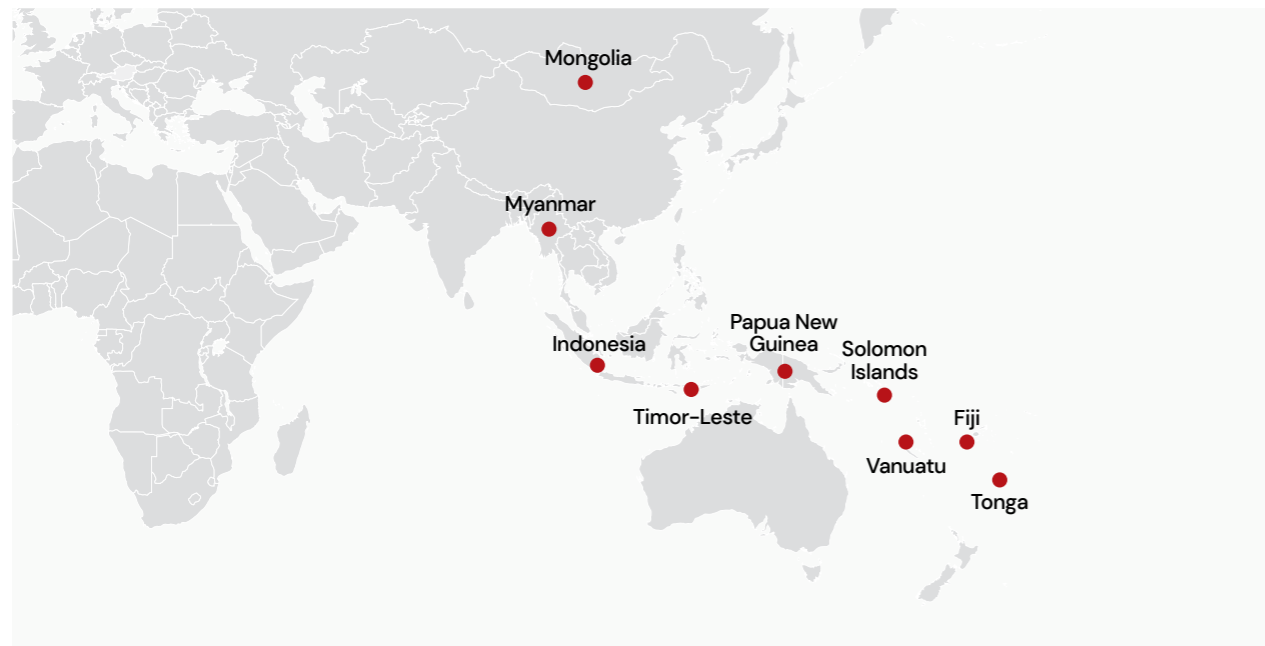
**49 million +** people reached through the DFAT partnership. This includes 27+ million people in the Asia Pacific reached by local partners through their disaster programs and 21+ million worldwide supported by DFAT grants for response operations.



**71 million +** raised to support humanitarian operations worldwide. This includes \$41M+ received in DFAT grants and \$30M+ raised through public appeals.



**477** humanitarian delegates deployed to support local partners in 70 countries across Asia, the Pacific, Africa, Middle East, Europe, and the Caribbean.



In January 2025, we commenced a new eight-year collaboration (an initial five years with the possible extension of a further three years) with DFAT, which was developed in response to increasing humanitarian need and mounting pressure on available humanitarian funding. Based on reporting by the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance grew from 136 million in 2018 to nearly 300 million in 2024.

This new collaboration will build on our previous work with DFAT by continuing to strengthen local leadership in the Asia Pacific region and embrace locally led humanitarian action globally. By fortifying Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies, it will contribute to greater resilience of communities on the frontlines who face increasing—and increasingly complex—disasters and crises.