



Maldivian Red Crescent Annual Report 2020

Photography by Aiman Rasheed



HUMANITY
IMPARTIALITY
NEUTRALITY
INDEPENDENCE
VOLUNTARY SERVICE
UNITY
UNIVERSALITY

6

Foreword by President
of MRC

8

Foreword by Secretary
General of MRC

12

Mission, Vision and
Objective

13

Who are we?

14

A Year of Humanitarian
Response
The COVID19 Pandemic

20

COVID19 Response and
Coordination

24

Psychosocial Support
Operations

30

Supporting Migrants in
Hardship

38

Vehicle Support
Operations

40

Risk Communication
& Community
Engagement

41

Supporting Incident
Command Posts and
other Agencies

43

MRC's COVID19
response across the
Country

49

Working on MRC's
Strategic Plan during a
Pandemic

50

Priority 1 Strengthen
Emergency Response

54

Priority 2 Strengthen
First Aid and
Psychosocial Support
Services

56

Priority 3 PFacilitate
Planning for Resilience

57

Priority 4 Promote
Health and Wellbeing
in a Changing
Environment

61

Priority 5 Foster
Humanitarian Values
and Volunteerism

66

Priority 6 Organisational
Development and
Sustainability

71

Partnerships and
Outreach

75

Financial Summary

Foreword by President of MRC



The Maldivian Red Crescent’s journey as one of the youngest National Societies in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is an inspiring one. It speaks of perseverance, of community spirit, and of growth. Thought of as a legacy of the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, and formed in 2009, the Maldivian Red Crescent has come a long way in establishing itself as a lead humanitarian actor in the country, and has been able to serve thousands of people, alleviating suffering, and instilling hope.

A six-year tenure over two terms has allowed me to witness and contribute to the many accomplishments and achievements of the Maldivian Red Crescent. The organization has grown with a wealth of knowledge and experience that support communities not just across the Maldives, but through the broader Red Cross Red Crescent Movement the National Society is able to create positive regional and global impact as well. The areas of work that the National Society operate in have also evolved for the better – some crucial areas such as the provision of First Aid and Psychosocial Support, promoting humanitarian values, and the core mandates of emergency response and disaster management have remained, while other urgent and complex areas such as migration, protection, gender, and inclusion, strengthened advocacy and partnerships have also become areas of work that the National Society has taken on. At the core and crux of all our work is the aim of enhancing resilience, so that people are better able to be prepared for, face, and overcome crises.

One of the biggest accomplishments over the years has been the creation of better and greater access to communities to provide support, especially when carrying out work in fragile and sensitive settings. The strategic positioning of the National Society is key in facilitating this access, through its auxiliary

role, so that humanitarian services can be provided impartially, neutrally, and independently, while always putting humanity first. Over the past 11 years, the Maldivian Red Crescent has become recognized as a lead actor in emergency response and disaster management and is trusted and relied upon by the relevant State agencies and by the public.

The establishment of Branches and Units in atolls and islands across the Maldives allows the National Society to serve, better understand, and build capacities in communities across the country. The success of the work of Branches and Units is owed to the dedicated and committed volunteers who take on a number of responsibilities, ranging from roles in governance, to planning and implementing humanitarian services in various contexts, allowing to function in a truly decentralized manner. Over the years, a great emphasis has been put on increasing the autonomy of Branches and Units, and to facilitate support that comes from and is informed by communities, for the communities.

The work towards better diversity and inclusion has been rewarding, though it must be acknowledged that there is still work to be done. One of the greatest strengths of the organization has always been having people from various backgrounds be part of the work, and efforts have been put in to



have this diversity truly represented across various levels of the organization. The Maldivian Red Crescent has strategic aims to have a fairer and truer representation of communities in the Maldives in the National Society, facilitating ways to have more women, migrants, and persons with disabilities be part of volunteer teams, and governing boards and to run for positions of leadership. The National Society is also working towards contributing to commitments around gender and diversity initiated by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, such as the Manila Call for Action with its ambitions to have at least 50 per cent of the elected and appointed leadership of the National Societies be women. For the first time in the National Society’s history, the Governing Board achieved gender parity with the newly elected board in 2019, and it is my sincere hope that this continues well into the future too. It has been encouraging to see many women, many of whom are young women, who are immensely capable and committed, take up seats in governance

and positions of leadership. As much as women are active in and participate in volunteer work, it is crucial that the same is reflected in roles of leadership, and the organization is committed to work towards better representation of gender and diversity.

It has always been the people - the volunteers, members, and staff of the Maldivian Red Crescent that have made the organization what it is today. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deepest gratitude to the former and current members who have filled in various roles in governance, helping guide and steer the course of the organization’s work within communities with great diligence and care, and for bringing in an unparalleled breadth of experience and insight. Thank you to former and current staff who shoulder great responsibility and work under tremendous pressure to strategically shape and implement the National Society’s work, and who go above and

beyond their roles to ensure that the multitude of initiatives run smoothly. Most importantly, thank you to our volunteers – the very embodiment of humanity, upholding its indomitable spirit. Thank you for always showing up when there is a need, for giving so much of your time, energy, and effort, and for the dedication and commitment. The appreciation for your service and sacrifice goes beyond words, and I am deeply proud of all the ways volunteers have touched the lives of others for the better.

Getting to serve the Maldivian Red Crescent as its President has been one of the greatest privileges of my life. I hope to continue to serve the National Society and the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in other capacities, and am grateful for the opportunities, and am even more thankful for the trust bestowed upon me to lead this organization. Thank you.

Foreword by Secretary General



The year 2020, shaped by the COVID19 pandemic, was marked by many things – change and upheaval, uncertainty and unpredictability, and loss and defeat. However, in an otherwise incredibly challenging and difficult year, it was also marked by many things that saw us through these hardships – courage and hope, kindness and empathy, and sheer perseverance and the hard work of millions of people across the globe who stepped up to the frontlines to carry out essential work. Life as we

know it has changed beyond recognition, creating a dichotomy of all the good and all the challenges we have contended with. Yet, our humaneness and interconnectedness have remained, and the need to uphold humanity has become even more urgent and more apparent.

The Maldivian Red Crescent’s work was also shaped by the COVID19 pandemic and the many new needs and challenges that emerged. The National Society worked extensively through its auxiliary role to support the national level COVID19 response work, becoming an integral part of emergency response operations across the country. Given the scale and magnitude of the response, the National Society took on a number of initiatives extending support to the State where needed, established areas of crucial work such as support to migrants, Psychosocial Support, and Risk Communications and Community Engagement, have been further strengthened to support the most vulnerable.

One of the biggest and most crucial areas of work was extending support to migrants who were facing severe socioeconomic hardships, facilitating better access to healthcare services and health information, advocating to adhere to minimum standards in the provision of various humanitarian services, and advocating to uphold and protect

migrants’ rights. Over 10,000 migrants were supported through these various streams of work, with one of the biggest operations being the meal provision programme which ensured access to food for migrants with limited means and no access to food.

Being able to carry out the National Society’s mandated responsibilities is reliant upon well established relationships – with the State, partners, and donors. We extend our appreciation to the State for continuing to uphold the importance of the National Society’s mandate and for facilitating ways to strengthen our auxiliary role. In addition to the creation of space for the National Society to operate in, further backed by support financially and in-kind, the Maldivian Red Crescent has been able carry out its mandate to provide humanitarian services impartially, neutrally, and independently, while always putting humanity first.

We would also like to thank the UN in Maldives, UNICEF Maldives, and UNDP Maldives for being excellent partners in our common work to help strengthen community resilience, in creating more equitable access to required humanitarian services, and helping to further the positive impact we are able to make. The Maldivian Red Crescent has always received the support of the private sector



and the COVID19 response work was no exception – we extend our gratitude to the companies that extended in-kind and financial donations to the National Society National Society which contributed immensely to the COVID19 operations.

The Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement partners – the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and other partner National Societies have always been a continued source of support that the Maldivian Red Crescent has been able to rely upon. It was with the guidance, close coordination, and insight of our

RCRC partners that we were able to cater to the many needs of people in need.

The impact of this year’s pandemic is far reaching, and it is a long road for recovery. As we work together to contain the virus and to rebuild our community, we also want to emerge from the crisis as a stronger and better National Society. Our work to help communities build resilience continues as we all learn to live with COVID19. We also understand how critical our role is in supporting people adapt and recover, and we are focused on doing this work better than ever before. Though we look ahead to a “new normal”, I look to the future with optimism as we focus more on

how we can have the greatest impact on the lives of people we serve.

I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together in the past year and whole heartedly thank the volunteers for their sacrifices and services in reaching out to the people in need. Your continued support makes Maldivian Red Crescent’s presence and work relevant more than ever. I express my deepest gratitude to the volunteers for their service, sacrifice, bravery, unrelenting spirit, for always showing that kindness and compassion are paramount for communities, and for their reliable commitment and dedication.



Who are we?

MISSION

To volunteer, participate, and partner in delivering humanitarian services to the most vulnerable.

VISION

To be a model National Society contributing to overcome humanitarian challenges.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

To prevent and alleviate human suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination.

The Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) is an independent, voluntary, humanitarian organization, established on the basis of the Maldivian Red Crescent Law [Law 7/2009]. Our primary objective is to provide humanitarian aid and to prevent and alleviate human suffering in close cooperation with government and local partners working towards the same goal.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) recognized MRC as a full-fledged member

of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 9 November 2011. Subsequently, MRC became the 187th member of the IFRC on 23 November 2011.

Since its formation, MRC has been involved in an intensive development process of establishing systems and structures that will enable effective delivery of humanitarian services to those who need it most, across the entire nation.

Our main strategic areas are Strengthen Emergency Response, Strengthen First Aid and Psychosocial Support, Facilitate Planning for Resilience, Promote Health and Wellbeing in a Changing Environment, Foster Humanitarian Values and Volunteerism, and Organizational Development & Sustainability.

To date we have established 10 Branches across the country and have successfully rolled out service delivery initiatives in these Branches.

A Year of Humanitarian Response

THE COVID19 PANDEMIC

The MRC has been responding to the COVID19 pandemic, engaging with the government of the Maldives, working through its auxiliary role, to provide humanitarian aid to those in need during this unprecedented crisis.



576
Volunteers



71, 666
Hours of Volunteer
Work



8
Branches

RISK COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

100

COVID19 facilitators trained to provide COVID19 and hygiene promotion information

70,000

reached via COVID19 information sessions



85

IEC materials translated to 7 Languages (Bangla, Hindi, Nepali, Sinhala, Telugu, Malyalam and Tamil)

7,028

institutions/ organizations reached

VEHICLE SUPPORT OPERATIONS

10,469+

COVID19 Sample Boxes Transported

16
Volunteers

24,236
Hours of
volunteer work



800+

trips of COVID19 Positive Patient Transfers

10
Months of Continuous Service

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICE (PSS)

Psychosocial Support Call Center - 1425

1286
Total No. of Calls Serviced via 1425

1897
Total no. of people outreached

Training and Capacity Building

159
Training Sessions

41
Basic Psychological First Aid, Psychological First Aid for Children and Psychological First Aid in Group Trainings

91
Psychological First Aid orientation sessions

12
Supportive Communication Training Sessions

04
PFA Training of Trainers & PFA Facilitation in emergency trainings.



2656
Total No. of individuals reached.

7264
Participants in Total

15%
Migrant participants



SUPPORTING MIGRANTS IN HARDSHIP



10, 466
beneficiaries (Direct & Indirect)

447, 508
Meals

149
Migrant Outlet Passes

1512
Emergency Meal Packs

1910
Hygiene kits distributed

3756
Calls serviced via Migrant Support helpline

27
Migrant Living quarter assessed

1883
MRC Beneficiary Cards issued



COVID19 Response and Coordination

THE COVID19 PANDEMIC

A novel Coronavirus (nCoV) was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China in December 2019, which quickly spread within Wuhan and to other major population centers in China. With the spread of the virus at a global level with cases of coronavirus illness found in over 110 countries around the world and the sustained risk of global spread, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

Amidst the escalating COVID19 global pandemic, the Maldivian Government established the National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) to consolidate efforts on preparedness as a response to the global pandemic and its impact on the Maldives.

Maldivian Red Crescent engaged with the Government of Maldives as early as January 2020 in the preparedness efforts with the onset of the outbreak of COVID19 globally. During the response in 2020, MRC was active in 8 branches across the country supported by over 576 volunteers.



NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (NEOC)

The NEOC was setup by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Health Protection Agency (HPA) to coordinate a nationwide effort to safeguard the Maldives from COVID19.

This was the first ever large scale multi agency response in the Maldives, including security services, government, and non-government authorities. Maldivian Red Crescent was represented in the NEOC to provide technical support, expertise and human resources as required to the operations center. Trained and skilled volunteers were mobilized to support several key functions in both planning and operationalizing the national response in collaboration with public authorities.

The response continued throughout 2020 and MRC continued to be a key stakeholder in the Health Emergency Operations Center (HEOC) which was formed after the scaling down of NEOC operations on 01 July 2020.

As part of our COVID19 response and



coordination efforts, MRC actively engaged in risk communications and community engagement, psychosocial support services, supporting migrants in hardship, vehicle support operations, carrying out mass inspections of business outlets, providing support and technical assistance to both the NEOC and later the HEOC.

MRC branches worked alongside local authorities engaging and contributing to the efforts of the COVID19 Task Forces at respective islands.

“The Maldivian Red Crescent played a crucial role in the COVID19 response across the country, and continues to do so. The National Society was an integral part of the operations from the onset, and supported the State in carrying out essential humanitarian services, with the help of skilled volunteers as part of the frontline. We have been able to reach many vulnerable people, especially those in marginalised communities, with the help of the Maldivian Red Crescent.”

Maimoona Aboobakuru

**Director General,
Health Protection Agency**



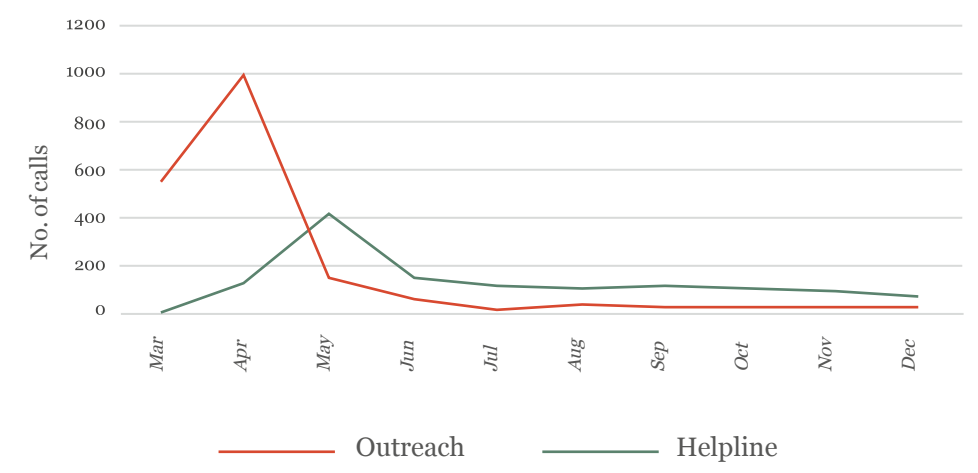
Secretary General Fathimath Himya presents MRC’s COVID19 response update to President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

On 30 May 2020, Secretary General Himya presented the work carried out by MRC COVID19 Response and Coordination effort at the policy level meeting. During the presentation, the Secretary General highlighted the work carried out in collaboration with NEOC and relevant agencies as well as the work carried out by the active branches of MRC across the Maldives.

President Solih expressed his appreciation towards the work and crucial support provided by MRC, and to its volunteers addressing the needs of the vulnerable in hardship and for providing the necessary assistance during the crisis as auxiliary to the government. He further requested MRC to continue with the efforts especially the important work carried out in providing support to migrants facing hardship due to COVID19 outbreak.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Strengthening the capacity of MRC Psychosocial Support Service (PSS) was identified as an immediate need, to support people in distress due to the public health emergency. The COVID19 pandemic had huge negative impacts on the mental wellbeing of many people who were unable to cope with the difficulties that resulted due to the lockdown and restrictive measures. At the initial stage of the outbreak, with many individuals placed in quarantine and isolation, many had faced difficulties such as such as experiencing increased stress, depression, irritability, insomnia, anger and frustration, boredom and stigma associated with quarantine.



PSS Call Center

To alleviate the challenges and support those affected, a call center was established on 08 March 2020 to reach out to people in quarantine or isolation facilities. At the initial stage of the operation, a call center was setup at NEOC where volunteers provided the services through the call center. However, with the community spread of COVID 19 in Greater Male’ Area, the service shifted online, with volunteers providing this service remotely.

On 25 April 2020, the PSS call center services were further expanded to receive calls from the public via 1425 - a toll free number. A total of 50 PSS trained volunteers were recruited and trained to work in the call center who provided the service by working remotely. Contextualized guidelines and procedures were also established to support the services provided via the helpline. To ensure the standard and quality of the services provided the volunteers underwent training and evaluations regularly.

The 1425 PSS Helpline was the first ever PSS Helpline to be launched and the first remotely operated PSS call center in Maldives.

Areas of Concerns reported via 1425 Helpline

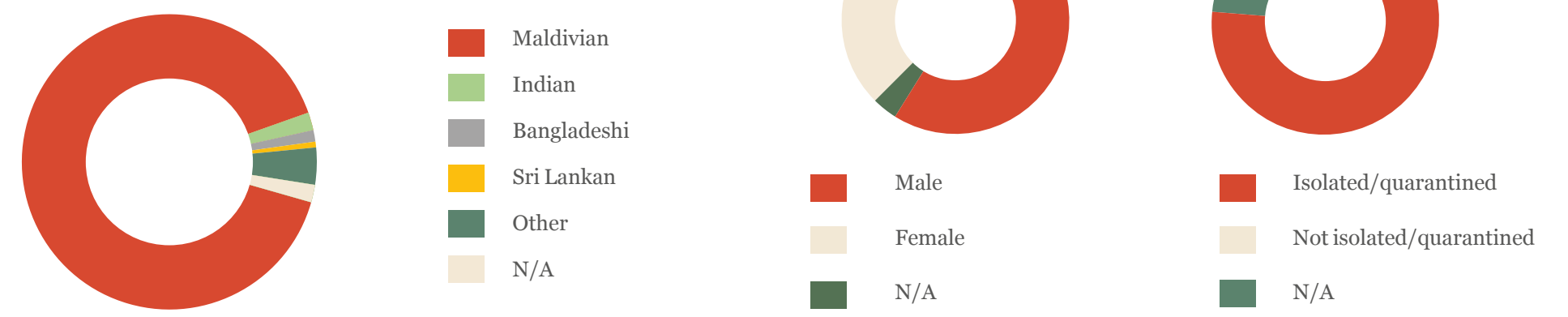
Financial and livelihood
Lack of Information
Pre-existing health concerns
Safety and security
Stigma/Discrimination
Need for medication/medical services

Mental Health
Basic needs
safety of loved ones

Frequently provided information via helpline 1425

Linking to relevant agency or organization
Mental health services
Coping strategies
Information on MRC helpline 1425

Data on Gender, Nationality, Isolation status



PSS Trainings & Capacity Building

As part of the COVID19 Response, MRC carried out capacity building activities conducting psychological first aid (PFA) trainings, PFA orientations and supportive communications modules. Participants of these trainings include MRC volunteers, front-line workers at the Health Protection Agency Rapid Response Teams (RRT), contact tracing and other NEOC and HEOC clusters. Focused efforts were also made to conduct support groups for front-line workers, organizations, as well as volunteers of both MRC and those working at the NEOC and for individuals at different quarantine and isolation facilities.

MRC partnered up with UNICEF in July 2020 to further expand the Training and Capacity building in Psychological First Aid as part of this operation. During 2020, a total of 159 PSS sessions were conducted with 7264 participants taking part in these sessions.



Feature Story

CHILDREN’S RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

With the support of the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, MRC carried out a programme to orient 10,000 schoolteachers across the country, as part of the Children’s’ Resilience programme. Through this programme, 91 sessions were conducted in which 6426 teachers were oriented in PFA and gained the necessary knowledge and support needed to provide basic PSS in school environments to help children who may be in distress and in need of support due to the disruption caused by the extended COVID19 lock-down.

These sessions include introduction to Psychological First Aid, common reactions to distressing events, common stresses especially in COVID19, actions of psychological first aid and self-care. 458 participants also undertook Psychological First Aid and Psychological First Aid for Children training. The PFA for children is an extensive training targeted to school counselors, and lead teacher.

A key objective of the programme was to build the capacity of teachers and school counselors to provide mental health and PSS in the school community after the school re-opening after lockdown.

“As a school health officer, I found Psychological first Aid training to be very helpful. The training had taught me how to approach and deal with children who needs psychological support. I’m able to use the knowledge I’ve acquired through the training daily with much more confidence.”

Fareedha Yoosuf

**Health Officer
Muhyiddin School**

“The Psychological First Aid (PFA) Training conducted by Maldivian Red Crescent was a wonderful programme, which enables us to learn how to be there for people who really need help in a catastrophic event. The content of the programme was very good and meticulous. It was very clearly explained with real life case scenarios. The best parts of the program were the practical part and the evaluation process used to ensure that the participants were ready for PFA. As a participant of PFA, I personally believe that it is an important and useful programme that must be completed by all the teachers working in a school as it is a programme that provides teachers guidelines on how to speak with students who have undergone an emergency event or disaster that has disrupted the learning environment. With the help of the programme, teachers will be able to reduce distress and facilitate students’ learning by stabilizing the emotions and behavior of students. “

Nasheeda Ali

**Leading teacher
Huravee School**

MRC'S PSS TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING TEAM

“I joined MRC COVID19 Response Operation in June 2020 as Programme Officer- Psychosocial Support Trainings and Capacity Development. This was an essential part of the response operation, as the pandemic caused distress to large number of people impacting their mental health. During my work at MRC, I realized the importance of integrating Psychosocial Support in other fields of work. It is necessary for all individuals, irrespective of the profession, to have the knowledge of providing basic level of psychosocial support which would enable them to identify someone who requires help and link them according to their need. This is an area I wanted to contribute to, as I believe increasing the knowledge and skills of individuals in the community is one way to build a resilient community.

It was a true pleasure to work for MRC and serving humanity. “

Mariyam Ifshan Ahmed

Programme Officer – PSS Training and Capacity Building



“I worked in MRC as a Psychological First Aid trainer for 3 months, during which I got the opportunity to conduct Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) trainings for people working in various fields of work. I consider conducting MHPSS trainings as a key area of work during the response operation, as COVID 19 pandemic affected mental health of many individual in the community. By conducting these trainings, we were able to build knowledge and capacity of many individuals, who can now provide support to a person in distress. I believe strengthening psychosocial support services is important to minimize impacts on mental health. It was an honor to work for MRC in providing such crucial service. “



Mariyam Sidhuna

**Psychological First Aid Trainer
PSS Operations**

“I worked as a psychological First Aid trainer with MRC conducting trainings sessions on Psychological First Aid for Children and Basic Psychological First Aid Trainings primarily for teachers. I believe it is vital for teachers to be trained in how to provide psychological first aid to children and how to take better care of themselves especially during the difficult times caused due to the COVID19 pandemic. We realized during the training sessions conducted that, teachers are compassionate in nature, have already developed and been practicing many of the skills covered during our Psychological First Aid training sessions. This makes the training sessions easier as we were able to work with them to refine and perfect their skills. Countless hours were spent to prepare for these trainings and conduct these sessions. The success of this operation was down to the vital role played by my fellow facilitators and volunteers of MRC.”



Nashia Nazim

**Psychological First Aid Trainer
PSS Operations**

SUPPORTING MIGRANTS IN HARDSHIP

Migrant workers in the Maldives were identified and found to be one of the most vulnerable and at-risk group to the adverse effects of the COVID19 pandemic. One of the key areas of work for MRC had been the extensive engagement with migrant and undocumented migrants.

During the initial outbreak and lockdown period it was observed that the infection rate of the migrant population was much higher, and many migrant workers had limited access to proper health care while being exposed to inhumane living conditions. Migrant workers had also faced economic hardship and difficult living circumstances due to the

outbreak, which led to strict stay at home orders in Greater Male' Area. Many migrants faced loss of employment, and many who were dependent on daily wages were unable to meet basic needs such as access to food and groceries.

To expand MRC's relief work to support migrants facing the socioeconomic impacts of the outbreak of COVID19 in Maldives, MRC launched a Migrant Relief fund from 01 May 2020 – 31 May 2020 which raised MVR 1, 374,745.79 in donations to execute targeted interventions.



Risk Communication & Hygiene Promotion

Focused efforts were carried out from late January 2020 onwards to reach the migrant population to disseminate information on COVID19. Hygiene promotion and risk communication materials were developed in multiple languages and volunteers were trained to carry out COVID19 outreach information sessions including migrant volunteers. To disseminate information, major sectors like the Industrial, construction and tourism sectors were reach out to in addition to small businesses and organizations within communities. Multiple mediums were used to carryout these activities ranging from online sessions, distribution of translated information materials, audio dissemination of information via loudspeakers, and in-person information dissemination.

Volunteers across all MRC branches were mobilized to carry out these activities in their respective communities. The primary objective of this intervention was to ensure that everyone in the community had access to information about COVID19 and provide key information on the importance of hygiene promotion and basic prevention measures to break transmission of the virus.

100 COVID19 Information trainers were trained with 70,000 migrants reached directly and indirectly due to this intervention.

Migrant Support Center

Male' Branch established a migrant support center in Kalaafanu school on 15 April 2020 to cater to the needs of affected migrants impacted by COVID19. Initially set up to ensure the provision of food for migrants in need during the period of lockdown, as the response went on additional needs of the migrants living in our community were identified and functions of the migrant support center was carried out to meet these needs.

Key activities carried out by the Migrant Support Center include providing meals to those with limited or no access to food, provision of hygiene kits and providing support via a migrant helpline service.

The physical set up and its function of the migrant support center was continued till the end of phase 1 of lockdown ease measures which ended on 14 June 2020. However, many functions of the center such as meal provision for affected migrants were continued till the end of 2020.



Meal Provision Programme

The community transmission in Greater Male' Area which led to the implementation of lockdown measures, significantly impacted access to meals of many migrants. MRC with the support of the government was able to arrange solutions to the migrants affected through targeted interventions.

Movement restrictions affected the services of the migrant run food outlets which were the primary meal arrangement modality among migrants, MRC worked with the government authorities to arrange a solution, by issuing MRC passes to these outlets resulting in uninterrupted meals for 4707 beneficiaries over the lockdown period. By the end of Phase 1 of lockdown ease, 282,420 meals were provided to beneficiaries because of this intervention.

With the establishment of the Migrant Support Helpline, meals were also arranged directly by MRC to migrants reaching out to the helpline requesting support. Further to providing hot meals twice a day, the Migrant support center supplied raw materials such as basic staple food items for households or sites where cooking arrangements were available. The center also provided emergency food packs as an immediate support to those reaching out to migrant helpline.

Lockdown ease (July – December 2020)

With Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the lockdown ease measures, which resulted in much of the restrictions being lifted by the government, MRC observed that many migrants continued to be affected, especially those migrants living on a daily income source as well migrants facing economic hardship due to loss of employment. As a response, Male' Branch continued the provision of meals through an organized Migrant Meal Provision Programme, where an eligibility criterion was set, and beneficiary communication was established through the Migrant Support Helpline.

Under this meal provision programme, food coupons were issued for migrants meeting the set criterion. Coupons were renewed weekly after an assessment of their situation. With this programme, 347 beneficiaries were registered, and 14,773 meals were issued to migrants from 27 July 2020 – 31 December 2020.

Migrant meal Provision Programme

15 April 2020 – 14 June 2020

9819
beneficiaries
(Direct & Indirect)

3600 +
Direct Beneficiaries

1512
Emergency Meal Packs

148,803
Meals Directly via MRC

282, 420
Meals indirectly
facilitated via MRC
Outlet Passes

431, 223
Total Meals

Migrant Meal Provision Programme

15 April 2020 – 31 December 2020

10, 466
No. Beneficiaries

1512
No. Emergency Meal
Packs

447, 508
Total No. Meals



Hygiene kit provision

MRC observed that many migrants in living quarters, facing economic hardship and those living in quarantine facilities, temporary shelters designated for migrants had limited access to proper hygiene materials. As an immediate and direct intervention, MRC began issuing hygiene kits to affected migrants to carry out hygiene promotion. While most of the hygiene kits provision was carried out in Greater Male' Area, hygiene kits were issued by Haa Dhaalu branch as a result of migrant assessments in Haa Dhaalu Kulhudhuffushi. The hygiene kits issued include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, towel and detergent.

Male' branch continued hygiene kit provision under the migrant support center till the end of 2020 to ensure that migrants facing economic hardship even after the lockdown ease measures had access to basic hygiene items.



1902

Total no. Hygiene Kits
Issued

Mobile Medical Camps & Assessments

MRC supported other response agencies in organizing mobile medical clinics targeted towards migrant population in the capital. Along with these medical camps, MRC alongside the authorities carried out assessments of living quarters and quarantine facilities to provide and ensure that migrants were provided the necessary humanitarian services to provide and ensure that migrants were provided the necessary humanitarian services. As a result of these assessments, many irregular migrants who had challenges accessing basic health care were identified and provided with MRC beneficiary cards which provided a form of identification allowing ease of access to such services.

Rapid assessments were carried out by MRC response volunteers at the onset of the pandemic to understand the situation of migrants to determine the need for an intervention. In addition to assessments of migrant households, living quarters, quarantine facilities in Male' and Hulhumale', rapid observational assessments of migrant living quarters in Thilafushi and migrant only quarantine facility in Gulhifalhu were carried out. Assessments revealed the vulnerable situation of migrants to COVID19 due to their congested living spaces with poor ventilation, sanitation facilities and lack of access to hygiene measures. Through these assessments, MRC was able to help identify issues in the migrant only quarantine facilities and work with the authorities to improve the conditions as well as help facilitate easier access to health care.

Assessment Summary

27

Assessments

24

Households

3

migrant only shelters



What is a new Coronavirus?

- The new Coronavirus strain that has been circulating since November 2019, has not been previously identified in humans is now known as novel coronavirus which causes COVID-19



Volunteer Feature Story

VOLUNTEER THROUGH A PANDEMIC *SUPPORTING MIGRANTS IN HARDSHIP*

Dr. Zeba un Naher

I was volunteering with MRC from the very beginning of the COVID19 response and was involved with providing support in MRC's Risk Communication and Community engagement activity. I conducted numerous in-person information sessions as a facilitator sharing COVID19 information and preventive measures to minimize spread of the virus. As a volunteer of MRC, I also worked alongside HPA's contact tracing teams and one of my main work there was to communicate with migrants exposed to positive case on the next steps and provide guidance on behalf of the authorities.

Migrants, especially undocumented migrants living in our community are one of the most vulnerable members of our community who needed additional support and guidance to understand what was happening. As a migrant, I was able to communicate this vital information in my native language which allowed us to address the spread of misinformation and provide important information regarding COVID19. During these efforts, I met many migrants who were already facing challenges

due to the onset of the pandemic, some were facing economic hardship due to loss of employment and were struggling to meet basic needs. Many others were concerned about access to healthcare and possible deportation either due to testing positive for COVID19 or being exposed. With many migrants living in small, confined places and their hesitancy to communicate, it was very challenging for us to provide the necessary information and reassurances on many instances.

One incident which will remain with me is of a migrant worker who was one of the direct contacts of 26 others in a residence. Due to his legal status, he was hesitant to provide any details which made it very difficult for us to trace him, but we eventually managed to find them after carrying out multiple follow up calls. During my follow up call, he told me that "you people just saved our lives, I will never forget you. I am not dying and Insha Allah I will be able to return to my mother"

There are many such stories of how we were able to help many migrants in need, with the support and

guidance provided by MRC and HPA. The prompt action taken to address many of the concerns and issues, also allowed us to reach and provide vital assistance to many who were struggling at the time.

Like so many others, COVID19 has been very challenging for me personally as well. During the initial outbreak, due to the many restrictions, I was apart from my beloved mother who was at the time living alone back home in Bangladesh. While I was helpless not to be with her, I was constantly in communication with her to ensure her well-being remotely, speaking with her regularly until I was able to go back home.

As a migrant in a foreign country, I have learnt a lot through volunteering with MRC the past 4 years. I learnt how to stay humble, and I know that it requires a lot of courage to work towards humanity. My experiences have enabled me to fearlessly work towards humanity. Being able to provide support and assistance to someone in need, brings a strong feeling of satisfaction which overwhelms me and always puts a smile on my face.



VEHICLE SUPPORT OPERATIONS

The vehicle support operations was one of the key areas of support under the COVID19 Response and coordination efforts. MRC's vehicle fleet in greater Male' area was mobilized and coordinated by MRC Male' Branch to support COVID19 response efforts lead by the Health Protection Agency's Rapid Response Team from 17 March 2020 and carried beyond December 2020.

The operation initially began providing transportation support to the Rapid Response Team (RRT) of health protection agency in the movement of responders safely from and to their destination and the transportation of samples collected across the country to respective labs in Greater Male' Area. The operations further expanded to fully utilizing MRC's small fleet of vehicles to further support the RRT in triaging, movement and providing patient transfer services of bed-ridden COVID19 positive patients and direct contacts at different locations in

greater Male' area.

The services provided under this operation played a crucial role in supporting the NEOC and later the HEOC to receive and process samples across the Maldives. During the height of the response, volunteers worked around the clock collecting sample boxes arriving through air, by sea and ensured that these samples were transported to the respective labs. During the period of service response volunteers successfully collected, carried, and transported over 10,469 COVID19 sample boxes.

Another key area of service which was provided under this operation was executing of safe transfer service of COVID19 positive bed-ridden patients. Trained volunteers in patient transfer ergonomics were leading this service to ensure proper care, support and psychosocial support was provided to

patients during the transfer to their point of arrival to the respective destination or facility. Over the course of this period, more than 800+ trips were carried out under this operation.

This operation was MRC's longest service provided under the MRC COVID19 response and coordination efforts to the Health Protection Agency and the Maldivian government. A total of 16 volunteers were mobilized and fully dedicated to the services provided under this operation with services provided 24/7 during periods of the response.

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

MRC played an essential role alongside the health protection agency in risk communications and community engagement to provide the public and migrant communities with critical information on COVID19. Targeted efforts were made to provide information on good hygiene practices, information on COVID19 and its transmissibility, and encouraging those with COVID19 symptoms to reach the hotline setup by the health protection agency.

This was done in numerous ways, including door-to-door visits, information sessions held in-person and online, and through the dissemination of IEC material. MRC volunteers were mobilized to support this work, including migrant volunteers who supported the translation to and dissemination of information in multiple languages. As part of these efforts, 85 IEC material were developed for dissemination, and translated in 7 languages (Bangla, Sinhala, Nepali, Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, and Telugu). In addition, audio messages were also recorded for dissemination.



MRC's volunteers including migrant volunteers supported these efforts and managed to share these IEC materials with over 7,028 institutions and organizations. Over 100 volunteer facilitators were trained in hygiene promotion and COVID19

information dissemination and 70,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries were reached through targeted sessions carried out to migrant population in multiple languages as well as via Zoom sessions that were held for locals.

SUPPORTING INCIDENT COMMAND POSTS AND OTHER AGENCIES

MRC worked alongside Male' City Council to establish Incident Command Posts (ICPs) in Greater Male' Area. MRC Volunteers were stationed at key command posts in Male' area and worked with key agencies to provide technical and coordination support providing crucial services to residents through the ICPs. Some of the services provided via the ICPs include assistance to households in quarantine and isolation facilitating access to food, other basic needs and delivery of critical prescription medication to patients in households in Greater Male' Area.

MRC provided support to Port Health in the quarantine process of incoming Maldivians during the initial period of the COVID19 response. Male' branch deployed 20 emergency response volunteers to Velana International Airport to support the process and additional assistance.

Male' Branch deployed their emergency response teams to support the Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services to help set-up temporary shelters for vulnerable groups in Greater Male' Area, those who



did not have a place to stay. Volunteers supported the ministry and social service staff in setting up this shelter where pre-entry health screening was carried out and were also provided with information on COVID19 prevention measures.

MRC supported the Health Protection Agency

(HPA) Mass Inspection of business establishments in Greater Male' Area to inspect compliance with COVID19 guidelines. 14 Male' branch volunteers were mobilized to support Phase 1, 2 and 3 of mass inspections carried out from July 2020 till October 2020 completing inspections of 6000 establishments.



MRC'S COVID19 RESPONSE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

MRC was active across 8 branches as part of the COVID19 response and coordination efforts. While most of the response efforts were based in Greater Male' Area, branches provided support to local authorities and respective task forces established at city and island level to provide the necessary support.

One of the key areas of support provided was carrying out risk communication and community engagement activities where extensive outreach work was carried out on disseminating COVID19 information. Targeted multi-lingual messages focused towards migrant workers residing in the island as well as elderly were provided as part of these efforts. This activity was carried out in branches Male', Addu, Haa Dhaalu, Fuvamulah, Lhaviyani, Meemu, Gaafu Alif and Gaafu Dhaalu with volunteers mobilized in their respective units.





Addu Branch

Addu Branch was a key stakeholder of the Addu City COVID19 Task force with volunteers and staff at the forefront of the response activity from the initial stage of the response.

Alongside Addu Equatorial Hospital, volunteers helped setup the flu clinic and were engaged and providing support in patient triage, assisting medical staff, interpretation, and administrative work. At Addu International Airport, volunteers provided support in screening incoming passengers as well as assisting the authorities in managing border control with the restrictive measures on travel in place. The branch also provided support to the Addu EOC in the transportation of patients and personnel between quarantine facilities as well as worked alongside the Addu City Council to assist with the migrant repatriation work carried out.

COVID19 risk communication activities carried out extensively by volunteers ranging from conducting information sessions to the dissemination of IEC materials in multiple languages to reach vulnerable communities such as migrants and the elderly. 2954 participants took part in the information sessions as part of these efforts and 5000 members of the community were reached directly and indirectly as part of the IEC dissemination activities.

Under the branch's psychosocial support program, volunteers provided psychosocial support for 378 beneficiaries through outreach calls as part of this programme to ensure the well-being of those affected and people around them or those in home isolation during this period.

In November 2020, to support the on-going COVID19 response work carried out by health centers and different agencies at in Addu city, Addu branch donated 5000 surgical masks and 800 face shields to Maradhoo Health Center, S. Feythoo Health Center, Hulhumheedhoo Health Center and Addu Police station.

“The COVID19 pandemic impacted everyone's day to day life including my own, but it also gave me courage to go out in the front line and help others that need additional help and support. I was volunteering for MRC as part of the COVID19 response efforts of the MRC's Addu branch. I was primarily stationed at the Addu Emergency Operations Center as a MRC representative supporting and managing the call center. I faced many challenges during this response, but I am very proud to have been able to provide support to the people in our community as part of MRC Addu Branch.”



Zeeza Yoosuf

**Volunteer
MRC Addu Branch**



Haa Dhaalu Branch

Haa Dhaalu Branch was a stakeholder of the Kulhudhuffushi City's COVID19 task force with volunteers and staff working together with the local authorities at the forefront of the COVID19 response activities.

The branch supported the city council, Kulhudhuffushi Regional Hospital and the COVID19 task force with the execution of the functions carried under Social Support Desk operations. Call center management, administrative support for the home quarantine process, permit issuance and monitoring were some of the key areas of support provided by volunteers under this operation. With many affected economically due to COVID19, alongside city council, volunteers were assisting members of the community who needed help in applying for income support through the services of this operation.

During the nationwide lockdown, and periods where islands were put under monitoring, volunteers from Kulhudhuffushi City and Hdh. Nolvivaranfaru provided assistance to the COVID19 tasks force in their respective islands with harbor monitoring operations carried out to monitor the movement of vessels and people.

Haa Dhaalu branch as part of their COVID19 response efforts initiated and executed an outreach program in Kulhudhuffushi city. This initiative included wellness checks on the elderly population

where volunteers were able to reach out to over 400 elderly living alone or with family. Part of the wellness checks was to provide COVID19 awareness information and preventive measures against transmission of the disease. This outreach activity also enabled volunteers to identify those suffering from chronic illness and how to facilitate ease of access to medication during restrictive measures placed across the nation.

Risk communication and community engagement activities were also carried out by Haa Dhaalu branch with translated IEC material distributed to all health facilities in the atoll and active mounting of IEC posters and distribution of these IEC materials around Kulhudhuffushi city. Supporting the efforts of the city council, volunteers also visited the migrant living quarters on the island to further expand the outreach efforts. Additional mediums to expand outreach efforts were carried out by dissemination of COVID19 information and preventive measures via pre-recorded audio messages on loudspeakers in multiple languages.

The branch also donated vital personal protective equipment to agencies in Kulhudhuffushi City, with 6000 surgical facemasks and 800 face shields handed over to Kulhudhuffushi Regional Hospital and the Family and Children's Service Center in the City.

"I started volunteering with Maldivian Red Crescent, Haa Dhaalu Branch during the nationwide lockdown period in 2020. As a volunteer of MRC, I worked in the Social Support Desk (SSD) of Kulhudhuffushi City, migrant support operations, and harbor monitoring station.

Taking part in this response was a learning experience for me where, I learned to handle complex situations especially when attending to calls and messages received at the social support desk. I was only able to do so with the support and guidance of my fellow volunteers and others who worked alongside MRC during this response. Our community recognize the efforts and the support provided as part of this response which made me feel that the contributions made was important and significant."



Fawwaz Abdul Baari

**Volunteer
MRC Haa Dhaalu Branch**

"MRC team and volunteers were of immense support to the Council and other institutions with the COVID19 response efforts. They were an integral part of the joint operations and we could not have pulled this off without their dedication and eagerness to assist in such a time of need."

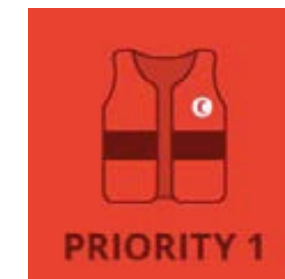
Abdulla Adam,

Director - Kulhudhuffushi City Council

MRC Hinnavaru Unit engaged with their respective local councils and authorities in conducting a migrant survey to support island level efforts to assess the situation of migrants on the island and provide up to date information on COVID19. These efforts also allowed volunteers to engage with the community members including migrants maximizing the reach of the risk communication and preventive measures of COVID19.

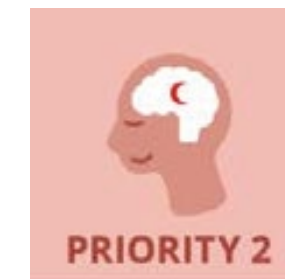
Working on MRC's Strategic Plan during a Pandemic

Along with the on-going COVID19 response efforts and the challenges brought on by the COVID19 pandemic, MRC and its branches were able to work and contribute towards the strategic priorities during the year.



PRIORITY 1

Strengthen
Emergency Response



PRIORITY 2

Strengthen First Aid
and Psychosocial
Support Services



PRIORITY 3

Facilitate Planning
for Resilience



PRIORITY 4

Promote Health
and Wellbeing
in a Changing
Environment



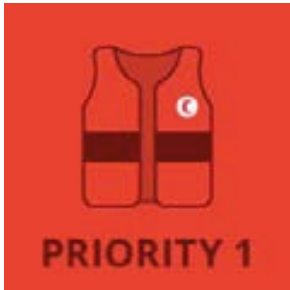
PRIORITY 5

Foster Humanitarian
Values and
Volunteerism



PRIORITY 6

Organizational
Development and
Sustainability



Strengthen Emergency Response

Emergency response is mandated by law to the MRC and is a core activity of the organization’s Disaster Management work. MRC’s community – based Emergency Response Teams (ERT) are trained to be mobilized to respond to a range of disaster and emergencies. The response work ranges from providing first aid and Psychosocial Support, distributing relief aid, mobilizing communities, and providing support to Internally Displaced People. MRC’s emergency response operations at the national and local levels complement the national emergency response mechanisms of the National Disaster Management Authority. MRC continues to be at the forefront of responses, along with other state authorities. In addition to the many volunteers that were mobilized for the COVID19 response efforts, MRC ERTs were deployed to respond to several emergencies across the country.

Haa Dhaalu Branch faced with frequent flood incidents engaged with stakeholders to explore solutions in Kulhudhuffushi City, and to work towards low-cost resilience from flood incidents. With numerous instances of emergencies responded to by ERTs of the Branch in relation to heavy rain induced flooding, quarterly reviews of response efforts were carried out to identify areas of improvement

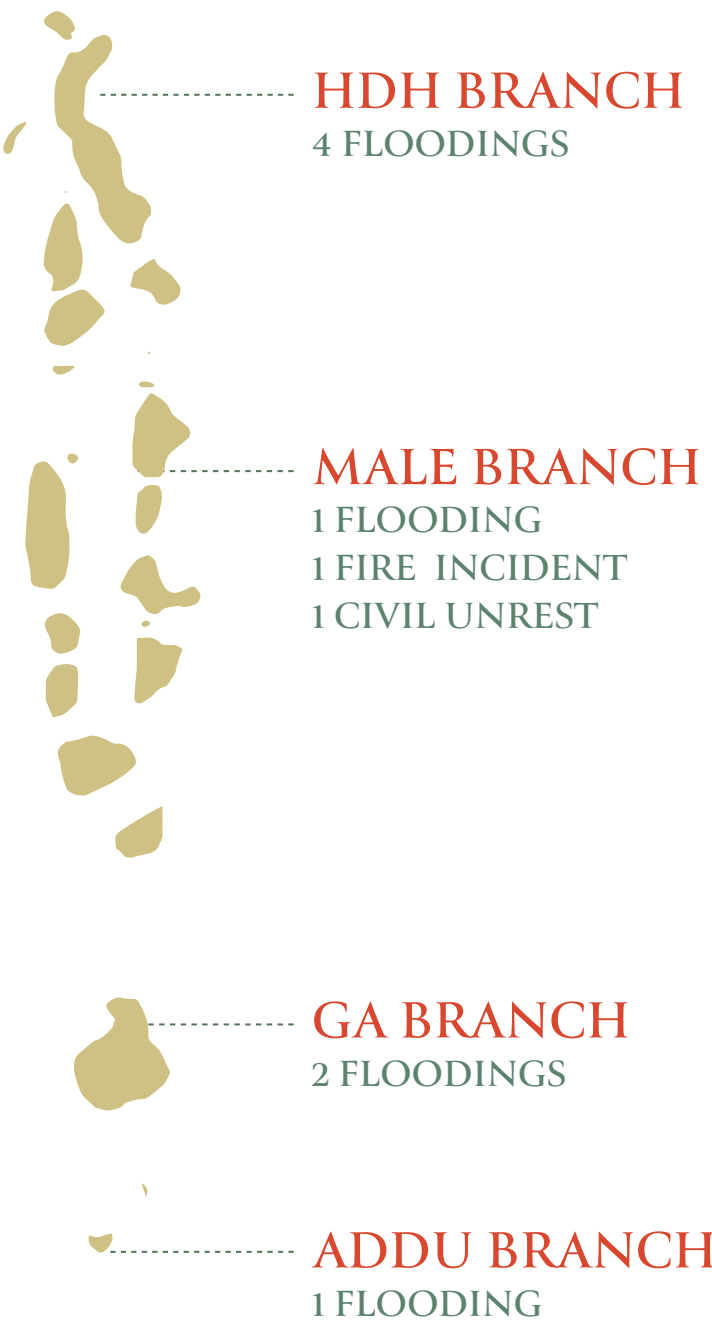
and efficiency. The Branch also carried out a flood assessment in Haa Dhaalu. Nolvivaranfaru to assess the persistent flooding occurring in the island, in partnership with Nolvivaranfaru Police Station.

Addu Branch had volunteers deployed to carry out assessments of 540 households in Feydhoo island in response to heavy flooding experienced during 2020. Given the ongoing work with the Addu City Council to develop the Addu Disaster Management Plan, the Branch was also able to build relationships with key stakeholders at city-level aiding MRC’s presence as a lead responder during emergencies.

As a key stakeholder in the COVID19 response efforts, Male’ Branch was able to work alongside and improve relationships with many of the key agencies during emergency response, such as the local level authorities as well as national level stakeholders such as NDMA and MNDF. The Branch also responded to multiple emergency situations including civil unrest, fire, and flooding incidents where ERT members were mobilized to provide necessary support and technical assistance.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND ERT MOBILIZATION

In 2020, MRC responded to 9 emergencies. This includes 8 flooding emergencies due to heavy rain, 1 fire incident and 1 incident of civil unrest.



Timeline of MRC Emergency Response Work

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<p>Health</p> <p>Community based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) was initiated</p> <p>One of the first ever programmes started by the MRC</p> <p>Disaster Management Work</p> <p>MRC positioned in Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)</p>	<p>Health</p> <p>Programmes on child protection and violence prevention</p> <p>Branch Establishment</p> <p>Establishment of 2 Branches – Noonu and Gnaviyani</p> <p>Emergency Response</p> <p>First ever Emergency First Response Team (EFRT) trainings</p> <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <p>CBDRR was launched. Work done in Haa Hoarafushi, Gaafu Dhaalu Gahdhoo, Lhaviyani Hinnavaru, Kaafu Kaashidhoo, Seenu Feydhoo, and Alif Alif Thohdoo</p>	<p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <p>Dengue outbreak</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Dengue control work</p> <p>Branch Establishment</p> <p>Establishment of 4 Branches – Lhaviyani, Meemu, Gaafu Alif, and Gaafu Dhaalu</p> <p>Emergency Response</p> <p>48 EFRT</p> <p>First time providing PSS in an emergency situation, to students of Hiriya School</p> <p>First PFA training for responders</p> <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <p>CBDRR DRR and CCA Strategy was adopted</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Adoption of MRC's Emergency Response Mechanism</p> <p>64 EFRT</p> <p>Pilot Emergency Response (ERT) training</p> <p>First Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>33 (20 male, 30 female)</p> <p>Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</p> <p>Development of Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments Guideline and Toolkit</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Launched MRC's Emergency Response Fund</p> <p>First International deployment as part of IFRC RDRT to Philippines</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>105 (65 male, 41 female)</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (RDRT) training</p> <p>Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training – 3 women</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>84 (50 male, 34 females)</p> <p>National Emergency Response Team (NERT)</p> <p>22 (17 male, 5 female)</p> <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <p>Male' Water Crisis</p>	<p>Health</p> <p>First ever Psycho-Social Support (PSS) Training of Trainers (ToT)</p> <p>23 Trainers</p> <p>ECV trainings began 67 people trained</p> <p>Emergency Response</p> <p>800 volunteers mobilized for Male' Water Crisis</p> <p>Patient Transport Services was launched</p> <p>Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training – 3 women</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>84 (50 male, 34 females)</p> <p>National Emergency Response Team (NERT)</p> <p>22 (17 male, 5 female)</p> <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <p>Male' Water Crisis</p>	<p>Branch Establishment</p> <p>CBDRR Project closure</p> <p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Raised MVR 2.5 million for Nepal Relief Fund</p> <p>2 RDRT deployments to Nepal</p> <p>RDRT deployment to Malawi. First ever South Asian deployment outside region deployment</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>99 (57 male, 42 female)</p> <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <p>Nepal earthquake</p>	<p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>99 (57 male, 42 female)</p> <p>National Emergency Response Team (NERT)</p> <p>24 (14 male, 10 female)</p> <p>Major Events & Incidents</p> <p>Kafidhooge' Fire</p> <p>Provision of shelter to IDP</p> <p>Coastline Fire</p> <p>G.Dh. Thinadhoo power shortage.</p> <p>Provision of relief items.</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Psychological First Aid Training. 26 Participants</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Raised MVR7 million for refugees fleeing Rakhine State</p> <p>Emergency Response Team (ERT)</p> <p>23 (15 male, 8 female)</p> <p>Health</p> <p>MRC led PSS ToT</p> <p>24 trainers.</p> <p>EVC trainings for 69 people</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Conducted a total of 4 tsunami drills across the country, lead by UNDP with other stakeholders</p> <p>International deployment to Myanmar to assist with those affected by floods.</p> <p>2-month emergency response operation due to State of Emergency declared due to civil unrest.</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Celebrate Diversity Fair</p> <p>The first fair organized with multiple stakeholders to increase access to basic health information and screening, targeted at migrant workers.</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>Revision of MRC Emergency Response Mechanism, with the support of the IFRC.</p> <p>Initiating drafting of the MRC Disaster Risk Management Policy and MRC Emergency Operation Plan.</p> <p>Henveiru Fire</p> <p>PSS</p> <p>IFRC DREF support towards helping people affected by fire of September 2019, in Male' City.</p>	<p>Emergency Response</p> <p>COVID19 Response Operation</p> <p>State of Public Health Emergency due to COVID19 pandemic</p>



Strengthen First Aid and Psychosocial Support Services

This priority area of MRC focuses on the provision of emergency services and support building on MRC's existing role and experience in providing first aid and PSS as part of emergency response services.

The strategy involves increasing first aid and PSS service, enhancing the quality of first aid and PSS services, and increasing overall first aid capacity of communities and service providers through targeted training. While emergency response services typically include a range of actions, this priority area establishes the fact that MRC's lead role and core expertise in emergency service would be in first aid and PSS. MRC has been an organization that has provided first aid training and services, across the country over the past decade. This priority area also focuses on the MRC's Commercial First Aid initiative and its expansion.

PSS, as a humanitarian service during crises, when compared to first aid, is relatively recent for the MRC. The COVID19 outbreak led to significant impacts on mental health and well-being of individuals across communities. Significant efforts have been made to build the PSS capacities of MRC



volunteers and staff, COVID19 frontline workers in other sectors, volunteers and staff of government and non-government agencies, as well as impacted communities through targeted trainings during 2020.

With the need for PSS capacity building identified due to the COVID-9 outbreak, under the capacity building efforts of the MRC Psychosocial Support Operations, 159 PSS trainings were conducted during the year in partnership with UNICEF with 7264 participants trained through these efforts, which includes MRC volunteers, staff, teachers, and members of other relevant agencies responding to COVID19. With 15% of the participants of the trainings being migrants, MRC was able to take significant steps in promoting inclusivity and building capacity and access to psychological first aid to the migrant community when and where necessary.

Training sessions conducted include Basic Psychological First Aid, Psychological First Aid for Children, Psychological First Aid in Groups, Psychological First Aid Orientation Sessions,

Supportive Communication sessions, Psychological First Aid Training of Trainers, and Psychological First Aid facilitation in Emergency trainings.

A breakdown of the training efforts of PSS capacity building can be seen on page 18 of this report.

First aid and PSS volunteers were regularly mobilized in times of emergencies, and where needed, first aid and PSS were provided as non-emergency services as well. While many non-emergency services were impacted due to COVID19, first aid volunteers of MRC Branches in Haa Dhaalu, Addu, and Male' provided first aid in 20 non-emergency settings. Volunteers from Haa Dhaalu Branch also took part in a Medical First Responder Training conducted by US Embassy, Colombo Civil – Military Medical Support Component

Four Commercial First Aid training were conducted, and participants were trained with the knowledge and skills to administer first aid during everyday emergencies. With the expansion of MRC's commercial training services in PSS, a training menu was developed. Under this expansion of

services, the first ever commercial Psychological First Aid training was conducted with 13 participants.

To mark World First Aid Day 2020, Haa Dhaalu Branch carried out a photo contest for children where participants were asked to send a photo, painting or poster which depicted an element or component of first aid. 21 individuals took part in this competition, with their work shared on MRC social media platforms. Addu Branch carried out a quiz to all first aiders of the Branch, successfully engaging volunteers to take part in the celebrations of the day through an interactive activity.



Facilitate Planning for Resilience

This priority area focuses on strengthening risk-based resilience planning at island and city levels and builds on MRC's vast experiences in the role of preparation of risk assessments using the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments tools. Local level planning across the country can benefit from a resilience-based perspective, covering planning not only for disaster management, but also towards adaptation and local development. The work under this priority aims to expand MRC's coverage of risk assessments and increasing the utilization of data and information gathered to advocate for a national risk assessment guideline.

MRC's partnership with UNDP Maldives on the project "Drones for Resilience" in Addu with MRC volunteers have seen the completion of the collection of required drone imagery of 7 districts in Addu City. Work to complete the Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) in the districts is currently ongoing and the project is expected to be completed in 2021.

MRC is also developing a Disaster Management Plan, for Addu City, with a consultant in partnership with Addu City Council. The plan aims to strengthen city resilience and emergency planning and will establish clear roles and responsibilities for the Addu City Council and other relevant stakeholders

to respond to the impacts of disasters and emergencies at the city level.

Under the project for Integrated Risk Management, in partnership with stakeholders working in the strategic area for resilience, updating and reviewing of MRC's VCA Toolbox and documents were carried out, and communication materials outlining the themes of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation are being developed, to encourage behavioral change. This project is expected to be completed in 2021.

On the International Day of Disaster Reduction 2020, MRC hosted a webinar focusing on the theme for the year "It's all about governance" with experts and lead figures from national level stakeholders taking part in the discussion. Along with Vice President of MRC, Aishath Niyaz, Umar Fikry – National Disaster Management Authority, Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed – Environment Protection Agency, and Afshan Latheef – Local Government Authority joined in as speakers for this webinar.

To mark World Tsunami Awareness Day 2020, MRC co-organized a webinar in collaboration with NDMA. The speakers for this webinar were Hisan Hassan – National Disaster Management Authority, Ibrahim Humaid – Maldives Meteorological

Service, LTC Mohamed Nadheem – Maldives National Defense Force, and MRC Secretary General Fathimath Himya. During the webinar, NDMA presented an overview of the work and mandate of the Authority, discussions around the theme of the year, plans and strategies on empowering communities, and resourcing local authorities were carried out by speakers.

Vice President Aishath Niyaz represented MRC in the Climate and Environment Charter advisory committee and provided technical support in the drafting of the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations. The charter is a joint initiative of IFRC and ICRC and is being developed with wide stakeholder consultation with the humanitarian sector as well as donor agencies and international environmental organizations. Members and volunteers of MRC were invited to take part in the consultation process with both Haa Dhaalu and Male' Branch providing feedback and comments for the first draft. This Charter is expected to be finalized and endorsed in 2021.

MRC also provided comments and feedback to the parliament regarding the Climate Change Bill, Land Use Planning Bill, and the Utility Regulatory Authority Bill during the year.



Promote Health and Wellbeing in a Changing Environment

The focus of this priority area looks at addressing existing and emerging health risks in the Maldives, factoring in climate change related impacts on human health. MRC has worked extensively in the area of health promotion in the country, in health preparedness and epidemic control. Under the MRC Strategic Plan 2019-2030, an integrated approach is promoted, where emphasis is on preparedness and prevention activities, shifting away from just response, particularly regarding communicable diseases, including vector-borne diseases.

The priority also focuses on targeting health related interventions for the migrant population and working alongside the community in preparedness and prevention activities. With COVID19 outbreak shaping much of the work in 2020, significant efforts were carried out to be better prepared for and to be able to respond to COVID19. These efforts included extensive outreach efforts to vulnerable groups such as the migrant population across the Maldives.

In January 2020, with reported cases of a Measles,



and the declaration of an outbreak, Male' Branch volunteers were mobilized to support the HPA in supporting the response to the outbreak. Volunteer teams were mobilized by the Branch for 4 consecutive weeks to support authorities to carry out community surveys, provide key information, and create awareness around the measles outbreak and the importance of vaccination under the "Maves Jahafin" Measles and Rubella mass vaccination campaign. Male' Branch provided support to HPA as part of promoting awareness on Measles Rubella vaccines. Migrant volunteers at the Branch conducted online information sessions to migrant workers living in Noonu Atoll and Raa Atoll.

Under the work done for COVID19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement, 100 COVID19 facilitators were trained to conduct information sessions and create awareness on COVID19. These information sessions were conducted in multiple languages reaching 70,000 beneficiaries directly and indirectly. With the support of migrant volunteers, communication gaps were identified, and MRC was able to develop 85



pieces of Information Education Communication (IEC) material around COVID19 prevention measures and hygiene promotion. A key area of focus during these efforts were promotion of hygiene, given that it is a key preventive measure against COVID19, and many other diseases.

Male' Branch took the initiative to organize a blood drive amongst MRC volunteers and to promote voluntary blood donation among the public. With the blood drives coinciding with the Indian Independence Day and MRC Day 2020, Male' Branch collaborated with the Indian Cultural Center and Maldivian Blood Services in organizing this event where 37 donors donated blood including members from the Indian Cultural Center along

“I applied for the grant to ensure that vulnerable migrants have access to basic preventive measures against COVID19, such as reusable masks, awareness messages, promote best practices and compliance in the community. I strongly believe that the messages on masks will be passed within the migrant community as well as accepted by our wider community which will in turn help to understand that their wellbeing is our wellbeing too”

Mohamed Nimal
Henveiru Unit Vice Leader
Male' Branch

with MRC volunteers and members.

Greater Male' Area being the epicenter of the COVID19 outbreak, Male' Branch carried out the distribution of 500 re-usable masks to migrants under the Migrant Support Center. The re-usable masks were provided by the Male' Branch's Henveiru Unit Vice Leader Mohamed Nimal through the Australian Awards Small Grants Scheme, with the aim of supporting the work done for migrants, through the Migrant Support Center of Male' Branch. The main objective of this activity was to ensure that vulnerable migrants have access to basic preventive measures against COVID19, such as their own masks, awareness messages that had information on risk reduction, and promoted best

practices around hand and respiratory hygiene.

Male' Branch continued the services provided under Patient Transport Service (PTS) to bed-ridden patients in the Greater Male' Area. The services provided through the PTS continues to be well received by the public, given the need for such a service for patients who are bed-ridden or have difficulties with mobility. The PTS was active and an important part of the COVID19 operations, where MRC volunteers transported people who were bed-ridden and had tested positive for COVID19.

Haa Dhaalu Branch carried out a dengue surveillance program to monitor mosquito breeding sites in Kulhudhuffushi City as the Branch continued its effort in supporting the stakeholders at the city level to ensure early interventions can be identified to stop the spread of dengue within the city. IEC materials developed on dengue control were shared via social media and physical dissemination of printed materials helped residents to be better informed on ways to keep safe. Under the Madhadahu Programme, Haa Dhaalu Branch organized home visits to senior citizens living alone, with visits carried out in a timely manner where their general wellbeing is assessed, and information on various aspects is collected to assess their health. Adding to this programme, volunteers from the Branch carried out assessment on the elderly population of Haa Dhaalu Kulhudhuffushi through phone calls and door to door visits with the aim of helping to better understand ways to promote the physical and mental wellness of the population through this initiative.

Addu Branch also carried out activities to facilitate



wellness checks under the “Haalu Kihiney” Programme, with volunteers carrying out wellness visits to the elderly citizens of Hulhudhdhoo, Meedhoo and Hithadhoo. Through these visits, volunteers were able to assess the physical wellbeing and assist with the mental wellbeing of the elderly from these island communities.

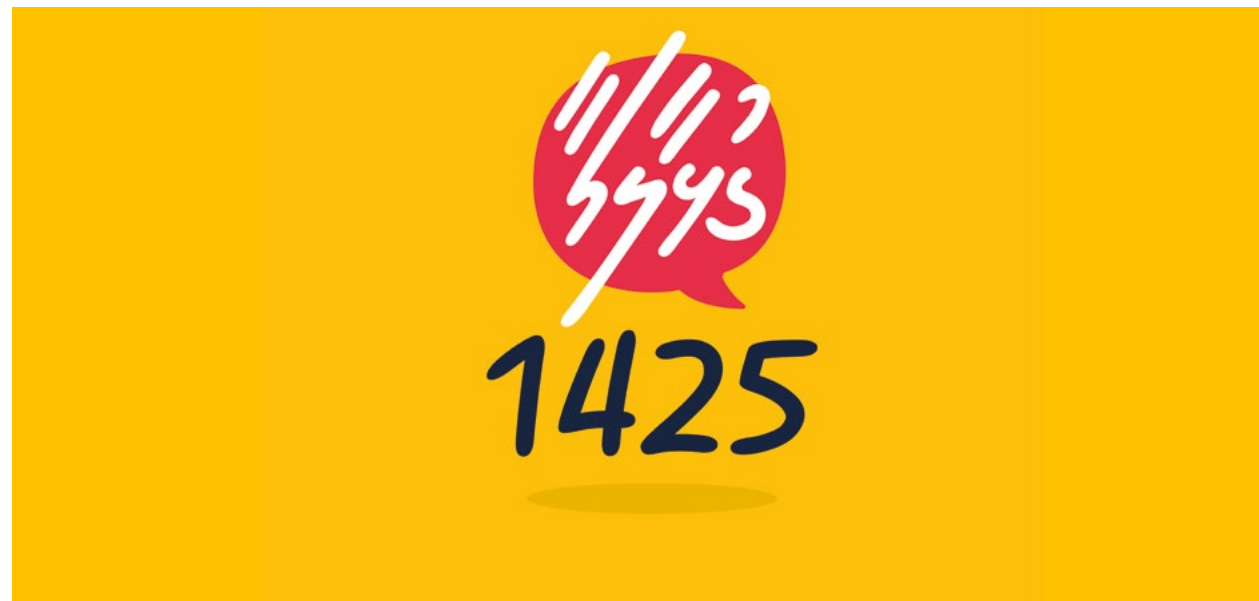
To mark International Migrants Day 2021, MRC in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development organized the “Dialogue on the Situation of Migrant Workers in the Maldives”. The purpose of organizing a dialogue about migrant workers in the Maldives is to bring together

stakeholders including government, State, and non-state actors to engage in a meaningful discussion on the various challenges and possible progressive steps towards addressing key issues faced by the migrant worker community in the country. Key stakeholders who took part in the dialogue include, Human Rights Commission of the Maldives (HRCM), Public Interest Law Center (PILC), International Organization for Migrants (IOM), United Nations in Maldives, Transparency Maldives (TM), Labor Relations Authority (LRA), Maldives Police Service (MPS), the President's Office (PO), and the Ministry of Health (MoH)

Given the extensive outreach efforts made across all Branches as part of the COVID19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement initiatives, Branches and volunteers were able to engage with their communities and work closely with vulnerable groups such as migrant workers, elderly, and people with disabilities, establishing trust and facilitating a better understanding of the needs of such demographics.

On World Mental Health Day 2020, MRC led a collaborative webinar targeted towards the public, government stakeholders, and other relevant agencies with the theme for the year “Move for mental health: Let’s Invest”. Along with MRC Secretary General Fathimath Himya, speakers for this webinar were the First lady Fazna Ahmed, Dr. Abdul Malik – Presidents Office, Dr. Shanooha Mansoor – Center for Mental Health IGMH, Aminath Shahuza – Health Protection Agency, and Shahula Ahmed – UNICEF. As part of MRC’s webinar series, a webinar was hosted to facilitate a discussion around suicide prevention and seeking help as part of the World Suicide Prevention Day. Speakers for this webinar were Afaa Mohamed – MRC Programme Officer, PSS Operations, Abdullah Faseeh - Center for Mental Health IGMH, Mariyam Shiba - Blue Hearts, and Aaiz Ahmed – Comma.

MRC is also represented in the technical working group to review the Mental Health Act. Meetings and consultations were held throughout the year and work to complete the first draft is currently ongoing.

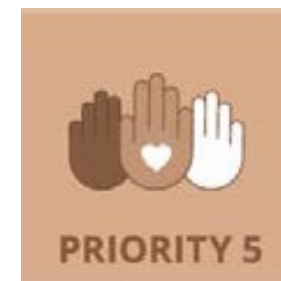


To promote MRC’s PSS Helpline 1425 and create awareness on mental health MRC in collaboration with UNICEF launched Gulhaalamaa campaign in December 2020. In addition to promoting MRC’s PSS helpline 1425, the campaign focuses on awareness messaging on anxiety, changes, stress, coping, and calming and relaxation techniques. The awareness messaging of this campaign is developed in English and Dhivehi targeting populations in cities and communities in islands across the Maldives.

*“We need to invest
our time, energy and
convictions for meaningful
reform and progress
towards mental wellness”*

Fazna Ahmed

**First lady
Maldives**



Foster Humanitarian Values and Volunteerism

Centered around inclusivity and partnership building, this priority involves building meaningful partnerships between MRC Branches and local actors with a focus on increasing the integration of vulnerable groups in community development activities. This approach stems from the understanding that communities are more resilient and can bounce back from disasters and crises when there is better social inclusion, that involves and includes everyone. It also involves actions such as institutionalizing and localizing a community engagement framework that promotes inclusivity and partnerships reflecting on the experience of MRC.

MRC in partnership with UNICEF and Addu City council have been working on the Alternative Learning Programme for at-risk youth in Addu City. The project looks to implement a comprehensive learning and skills development programme for vulnerable and at -risk young people in major learning areas such as literacy, numeracy, life skills, health and well-being, legal awareness and religious awareness, vocational training, and developing



skills of the patients and guardians. As the implementing body of the programme, Addu Branch worked alongside trainers on the area of life-skills, working with 30 participants under this programme including 18 male and 12 female participants.

On 15 November 2020, volunteers Azim Ali and Anoof Abdulla from Male' Branch took part in the first ever online International Youth Exchange Programme organized by the Japanese Red Cross Society. 21 other National Societies took part in the event engaging in discussion around the main theme of the event "Together, we create a world without stigma" addressing the discriminatory behavior towards people who had been infected with COVID19. Both volunteers took part in a series of interactive sessions learning about the diverse cultures, sharing experiences on COVID19 responses, and engaging with volunteers from other National Societies.

As part of the International Volunteer Day 2020, a webinar was organized in collaboration with Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, and the Ministry of Home Affairs. Both Minister Ahmed Mahloof and Minister Imran Abdulla took part in this webinar discussion. This webinar was inaugurated by the Vice President of Maldives His Excellency Faisal Naseem followed with an address by MRC Secretary General Fathimath Himya. Speakers in this webinar include Aishath Noora – Inspector of Correctional Services, Ministry of Home Affairs (former Secretary General of MRC), Ashiya Saeed - Maldives Girl Guide

Association, Aishath Ahlam – Scout Association of Maldives, Hussan Fayaz – Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, and MRC Lead Volunteer Ahmed Shabin. In addition to these speakers, MRC volunteers Mohammed Nasir and Villingili Unit Vice leader Ismail Nazif Saeed joined the discussion sharing their experiences and challenges volunteering as a migrant and as a person with disability.

The COVID19 outbreak brought an influx of new and enthusiastic volunteers to the existing MRC pools with many new volunteers recruited to the National Society to support the COVID19 response efforts. Over 100 new volunteers were inducted and oriented on the RCRC Movement and MRC.

“At the beginning I thought it would be difficult as a migrant to contribute like other Maldivian volunteers of MRC. I received a lot of help and I learnt very quickly that I was able to help and contribute the same as others”.

Mohammed Nasir

Volunteer

SPECIAL EVENTS



Unity Run 2020 Haa Dhaalu Branch

Haa Dhaalu Branch's Unity Day Run is held every year on 26 December aiming to raise awareness on Disaster Risk Reduction, through an activity that also promotes healthier lifestyles. 2020's event had 173 participants and 19 volunteers supporting the event. First aid trained volunteers were on stand-by during this event to provide necessary assistance. This event has been a source of fundraising over the past years through the selling of runner's bibs and the Branch raised MVR 17,125 in the year 2020.

The 26 of December in the Maldives is commemorated as National Unity Day, to reflect on the spirit of humanity and compassion shown during the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004.

IFRC International Volunteer Day Event

MRC volunteer Mariyam Shifaana joined in the 24-hour LIVE event by IFRC in celebration of the International Volunteer Day 2020. Shifaana joined 150 volunteers across National Societies sharing her experience volunteering in 2020. Shifaana is one of the many volunteers who have been part of the ongoing COVID19 response efforts since January 2020.

MRC Day

On MRC Day 2020, an online volunteer event was organized by the MRC for volunteers. This event was the first ever online gathering and the first one after the COVID19 lockdown period. Along with MRC Secretary General Fathimath Himya, MRC President Ali Nashid and other Governing Board members joined this event to speak with volunteers and to express appreciation for the work which has allowed MRC to provide meaningful humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable in our communities. Over 100 volunteers from various MRC Branches joined this meeting.



Migrant Community Events Addu Branch

Addu Branch organized a community triathlon and football match for the migrant community, to promote inclusivity and a sense of togetherness. Through these activities, Addu Branch aimed to promote diversity and inclusion within communities, to highlight the importance of social cohesion, vital for the resilience of a community.



Organizational Development and Sustainability

This strategic priority area focuses on organizational development and sustainability. It includes five key areas – governance and membership, volunteer management, resource mobilization, partnership and outreach, and management and service delivery.

The strategy focuses on expanding MRC's outreach and its operation in the country through increasing Units and Branches. It also focuses on better streamlining the internal governance and management structure, and increasing the diversity and representation of population groups, within the member and volunteer groups. Self-sustainability is an important aspect of this priority area, through regular and unrestricted income, along with an increase in revenue generation. The work also focuses on increasing the visibility and outreach of MRC and strengthening the internal workflow and data management systems.



GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

The MRC has established 10 Branches across the country, of these 3 Branches (Haa Dhaalu, Male' and Addu Branches) have staff members who run programmatic interventions in the communities. These 3 Branches cover the 3 regions in the north, central, and the south of Maldives.

Many challenges were faced in meeting the minimum statutory requirements considering the restrictions due to COVID19. After delays experienced, Male', Addu and Haa Dhaalu Branches organized Unit Assemblies with Male' Branch electing new Unit Boards during this process. Work is currently ongoing to arrange Branch Board Assemblies for early 2021. With all Unit and Branch Board members having elected women to their boards, significant strides to reach gender parity in governance positions have been made under this priority.

The Governing Board of MRC had 10 board meetings in 2020. One of the key areas the Governing Board focused on in 2020 was the revision process for the MRC Statutes which was

initiated in 2019. Work was carried out in 2020 to consult with members across all Branches of MRC. As part of the review process, 3 consultations were conducted online by the Statutes Sub-Committee who lead the process. The Statutes Sub-Committee was formed as part of the revision process and has carried out 18 sub-committee meetings. The final revised Statutes will be submitted to the 11th General Assembly.

To strengthen governance in other regions, MRC Secretary General carried out 20 meetings with members of governance in Lhaviyani, Meemu and Gaafu Alif atolls during 2020. These meetings were carried out to identify challenges and areas of support to strengthen governance in the Branches established in these atolls. As a result of these efforts, towards the end of 2020, work towards establishing a new unit in Lhaviyani Hinnavaru was carried out.

By the end of the year 129 members were registered across all Branches in MRC.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

With a total of 71, 666 volunteer hours logged by volunteers during the year, COVID19 response represents the longest running volunteer mobilization effort carried out by MRC since its inception.

Given the need for additional human resources for the growing demands in the initial stages of the COVID19 response, many lead volunteers were recruited and identified, and these volunteers contributed to the coordination efforts of MRC during the initial setup of the operation. The high-risk nature of the response, and how prolonged it was, posed many challenges in the management of volunteers, especially in ensuring their safety and mental wellbeing. To safeguard and ensure wellbeing of volunteers in the response, trainings targeted towards handling Personal Protective Equipment, ensuring mental well-being through PSS, and support group activities were carried out frequently. MRC was also able to expand and diversify volunteer pools with more migrant volunteers recruited to support the COVID19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement efforts.

Strengthening MRC's volunteer data management and communication mediums across Branches was

identified as a key area of focus to ensure volunteer retention and better mobilization.

MRC's management and governance recognized and appreciated the incredible efforts made by volunteers across Branches during 2020. As part of these efforts, MRC President and MRC Secretary General visited Haa Dhaalu and Addu Branch in November 2020 to meet with volunteers. During this visit the challenges faced were discussed and areas where additional support is needed were identified to further expand services. Members of the governing board and MRC management also met with the volunteers at Male' Branch highlighting their key contributions during 2020.

To mark International Volunteer Day 2020, activities were carried out across all Branches to celebrate and recognize volunteers for a remarkable year of service. Utilizing MRC's communication mediums, volunteers, and their work in key areas of interventions were showcased and recognized. Branches also organized and carried out a series of volunteer gatherings, events, and teambuilding activities adhering to the COVID19 safety guidelines to appreciate their continued dedication meeting the needs of an unprecedented crisis, during the year.



RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The work around resource mobilization is based on enhancing the sustainability of the work of MRC, through diversifying the various sources of available funding, so that humanitarian efforts can continue. Working towards unrestricted funding is highlighted, in addition to reviewing the donor landscape.

Areas of resource mobilization currently at MRC include Commercial First Aid Training, provision of First Aid Services, Merchandise sales, Patient Transport Service, and Membership fee. In addition to this, MRC was able to raise MVR 1,374,745.79 through Migrant Support Appeal donations to execute Migrant support interventions as part of the COVID-9 response work carried out by the National Society.

January 2020 to December 2020

Income	Amount (MVR)
Membership Fees	6,050
Donation Income	11,432,515
Commercial First Aid Trainings	44,688
First Aid Service	22, 375
Merchandise sales	2,335
Rental Income	544,000
Patient Transport Service	35,450
Other Income	17,640
Total	12,105,053

Partnerships and Outreach

The work carried out by MRC is supported by Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners, and government and non-government agencies and other organizations who collaborate to further outreach strengthening MRC’s humanitarian diplomacy, advocacy, and impact across communities. These partnerships are crucial in allowing MRC to continue its services to provide humanitarian assistance where and when needed.

Starting her tenure in 2020, MRC Secretary General Fathimath Himya made courtesy calls to key local stakeholders and partners to further strengthen partnerships and discuss potential collaborations. Meetings were carried out with National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Health Protection Agency, UN Agencies – UNICEF, UNDP, WHO and the Local Government Authority.

RCRC Movement Partners

IFRC & ICRC – are Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners that have supported the MRC through its formation and formative years through the decade. In addition to programmatic work, both partners provided the technical guidance and financial support for MRC’s COVID19 response work. During 2020, MRC met with the new IFRC Secretary General Jagan Chapagain discussing financial sustainability and IFRC support to MRC.

Singapore Red Cross (SRC) - the Singapore Red Cross and the MRC have had a long-standing relationship through which, the SRC has contributed to the organizational development of the MRC ensuring sustainably of the work being done. To contribute to MRC’s COVID19 response efforts, SRC donated Personal Protective Equipment of face shields and surgical masks.

Government

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – MRC in partnership with Ministry of Foreign affairs has been supporting the delivery of critical medicine to recipients, who brought their medication from other countries, during COVID19.

Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services - MRC provided support in managing and setup of temporary shelters of homeless people during COVID19 lockdown period in Greater Male’ Area.

National Drug Authority (NDA) – MRC provided support to NDA in delivering meals to the homeless and adolescents/youth (youth in conflict with the law and recovering addicts).

Male’ City Council - MRC worked alongside Male’ City Council to establish Incident Command Posts (ICPs) in Greater Male’ Area, as part of the COVID19 response.

UN Agencies

UNICEF – MRC continued its collaboration with UNICEF in implementing the Alternative Learning Programme in Addu city. Through this work, children who are out of school and other young adults who were particularly at risk, were supported through building capacities. In response to the COVID19 pandemic, UNICEF Maldives, and MRC, collaborated on strengthening PSS at a community level, to deliver timely and quality services for people affected by COVID19, and beyond, including at-risk women, elderly, young people, migrants, and persons with disabilities. Through this partnership, significant capacity building and advocacy efforts were made through programmes such as the Children’s Resilience Programme and Gulhalamaa Campaign.

UNDP - the MRC continued its collaboration with UNDP under the “Drones for Resilience” project in Addu City to prepare and provide key risk and vulnerability data in Addu City. The UNDP also supported MRC to establish and secure a digital infrastructure to support emergency responses and coordination at MRC with the key project outcome to increase efficiency and effective collaboration within MRC in coordinating and responding to emergencies across the country.



NGO’s

Transparency Maldives (TM) - in collaboration with TM, MRC ensured that migrants in conflict and were detained had access to legal representation.

Society for Health Education (SHE) – MRC and SHE collaborated to deliver contraceptives and in promoting awareness around sexual reproductive health during the COVID19 lockdown.

Corporates / Companies

Maldives Ports Limited (MPL) – MPL supported MRC during the COVID19 response by facilitating drivers to support MRC’s vehicle support operations.

Ooredoo Maldives – Ooredoo Maldives provided essential support in setting up connectivity and telecommunication during 2020 which supported MRC’s COVID19 response efforts across all branches.

Dhiraagu – Dhiraagu was a key partner during MRC’s COVID19 response supporting the initial set up of MRC’s PSS Call Center operations at the NEOC.

Bangladesh High Commission

The high commission provided support to MRC’s work in responding to migrants impacted by COVID19. Some of the areas of support provided include supply of staple food materials to MRC’s Migrant Support Center for distribution, and communications and translation support.

Indian Cultural Center (ICC)

- The ICC has been a partner of MRC and has provided support and assistance in many activities. During 2020, ICC provided key support in communications and translation of IEC materials developed by MRC as well as support during the facilitation of mobile medical camps.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH & REPRESENTATION

MRC was represented and has contributed to numerous Red Cross Red Crescent Movement meetings, working groups, and presented in webinars showcasing the work of MRC.

MRC was represented in the following Red Cross Red Crescent Working Groups and networks in 2020.

	Webinar’s Represented
- Migrant Leadership Group	
- Virtual Fundraising Steering Committee	
- Asia Pacific Migrant Network: - MRC is one of the co-chairs of the Asia Pacific Migrant Network providing strategic guidance and ensuring effective implementation of the APMN workplan.	“Advancing Migrants Access to Universal Health Coverage in the times of COVID19” MRC highlighted the work in facilitating access to health care for migrants during COVID19 lockdown.
- IFRC Reference Group on Global Health	“Technical Webinar: Pandemic fatigue” MRC highlighted the work carried out by the Psychosocial Support operations.
- Women and leadership resolution working group – GlowRED Network.	
- High level working group on The New Operating Model and New Resourcing Architecture	“High Level meeting on COVID19 public health and vaccination response” MRC presented their roles and responsibility in the vaccination process and provided an update on the migrant situation in the Maldives.
- South Asia Gender and Diversity Network	

Financial Summary

The accounts for the year 2020 were audited by Ernst & Young Global Limited. The financial statements of MRC for the period ending 31 December 2020 were prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities (“IFRS for SMEs”).

Similar to previous years, MRC’s activities were mainly funded through local, including government funding, and international donors. Other donors such as International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (ICRC) and partner NS’s s also supported towards the overall organizational capacity building and strengthening of governance support.

Major funding for Covid 19 operation was provided by the International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Society (IFRC). ICRC, UNDP and UNICEF also contributed towards the activities carried out for the Covid response along with individual local donors. In addition to this, a funding appeal under “Migrant Relief Fund” was made to the public to raise funds to support the needs of migrants who are faced with socioeconomic challenges during the times of COVID19.

Total income for the year 2020 is MVR 12,105,053 and expenses are at MVR 13,045,889 resulting in an expenditure over income amounting to MVR 940,836 for the year-end. MRC holds total assets worth of MVR 16,640,262 of which MVR 8,529,228 is Non – Current Assets. Current Assets stands at MVR 8,111,034 of which 44% are unexpended advances received from donors. Thus, because of these unexpended funds MRC’s current liabilities stand at MVR 4,824,942. The reserves of Maldivian Red Crescent stand at MVR 11,815,320 at the end of the year 2020.

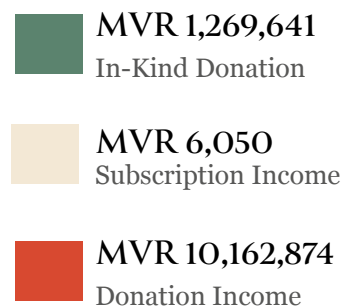
Net assets were MVR 16,640,262.

Revenue and Gains

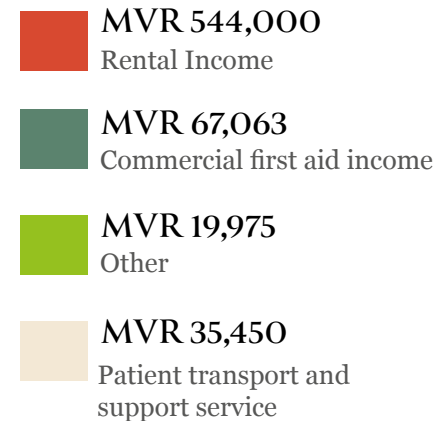
MVR 12,105,053



Contributions
MVR 11,438,565

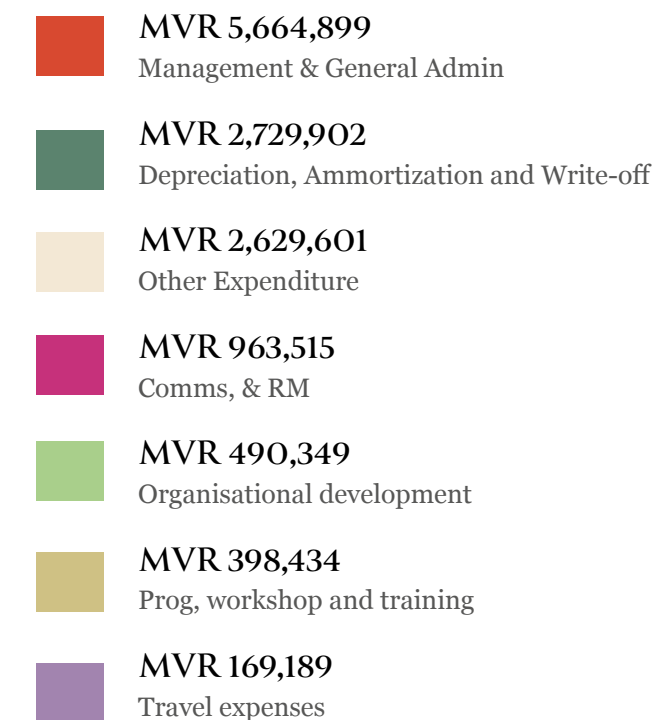
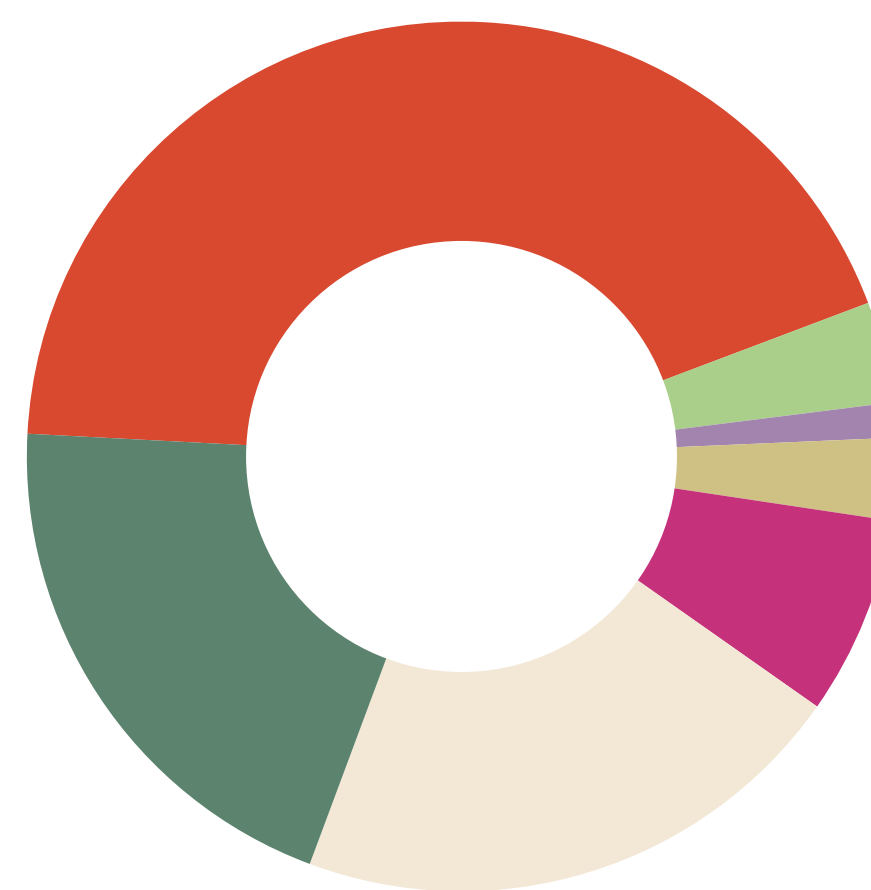


Products & Services
MVR 666,488

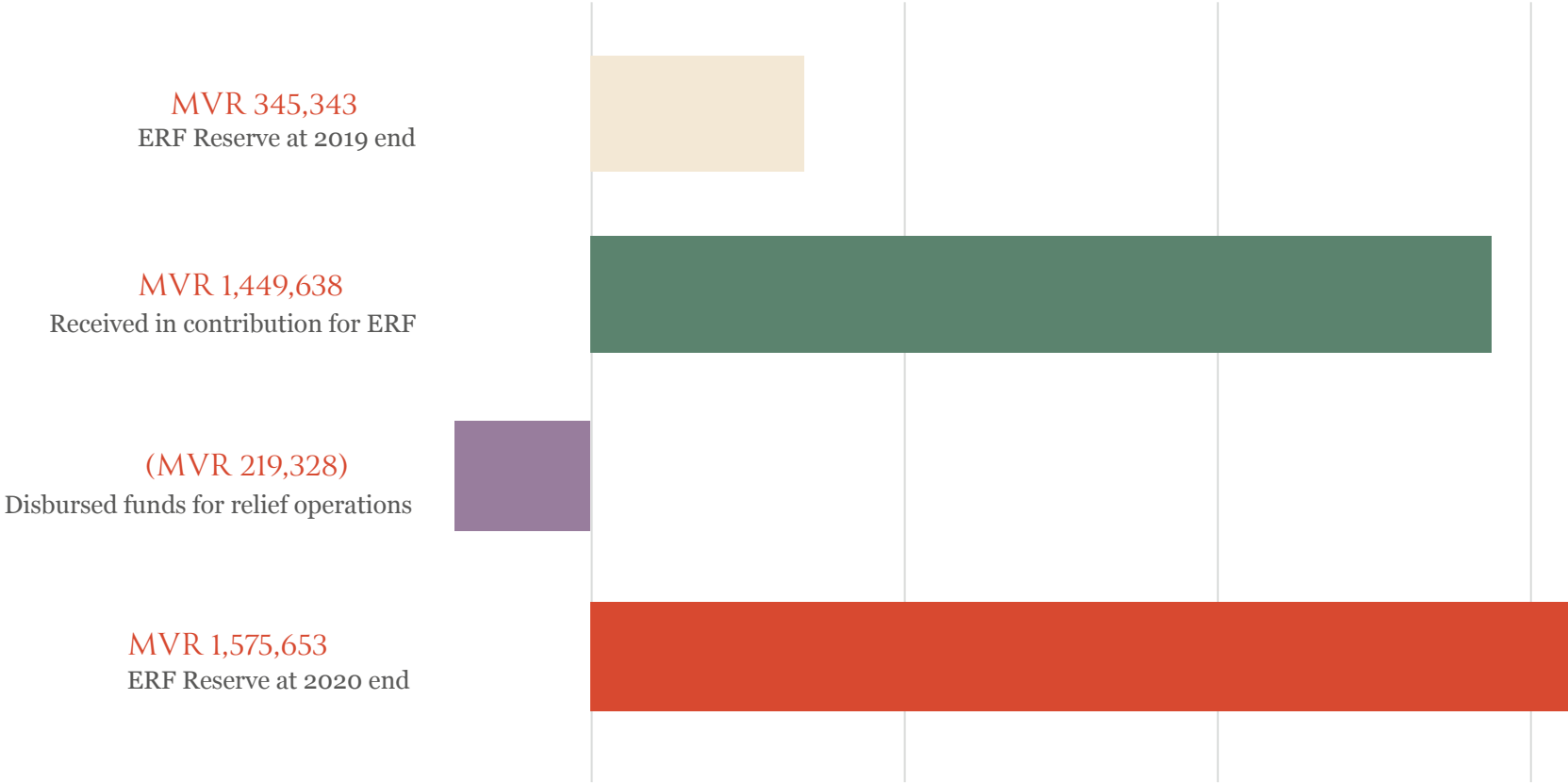


Operating Expenses

MVR 13,045,889



Emergency Response Fund (ERF)





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