Strategic Framework for Climate and Environmental Action-2023

Nepal Red Cross Society

FOREWORD

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) is the leading humanitarian organization in Nepal. Whether it's an ongoing or emerging humanitarian crisis, NRCS has always been on the front lines delivering humanitarian assistance to the population in need. With the changing climate, the humanitarian needs and sufferings are ever increasing, especially in the developing world like Nepal. Climate crisis is humanitarian crisis, and it is now critical for NRCS to scale up its efforts and humanitarian services to keep pace with the escalation of climate-related disasters and environmental risks. NRCS is already recognized as a pioneer organization in introducing and implementing forecast-based actions and anticipatory measures in Nepal. Working closely with partners, including the government, the NRCS aims to integrate this approach into the broader disaster management continuum of Nepal.

NRCS have been mobilizing a range of locally led interventions for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and ecosystem management. These initiatives actively involve and empower local communities to take proactive measures in the face of climate and environmental challenges. Additionally, at the national level, the NRCS have been supporting policy dialogues and advocacy efforts to enhance disaster risk reduction and resilience building.

However, considering the global and national imperative for collective action against climate change and environmental issues, NRCS recognizes the need for relevant institutional policy and strategies on climate change and environment to be better prepared for the unfolding climate and environmental emergencies. The formulation of a Climate and Environment Policy, along with an associated Strategic Framework for Climate and Environmental Action, is a steppingstone to move forward in tackling the ever-growing humanitarian needs in the new climate and environmental realities.

The NRCS undertook a comprehensive and collaborative process to formulate both its Climate Change and Environmental Policy and the Strategic Framework for Climate and Environmental Action. A series of meetings were organized with sectoral focal points from diverse departments and PNSs to ensure broad representation and expertise. At the headquarters level, two consultative workshops were held, providing a platform for in-depth discussions and collaboration. These workshops facilitated the exchange of ideas, best practices, and insights among participants, contributing to the formulation of effective policies and frameworks. Building upon the progress made at the headquarters, two provincial-level meetings were organized, specifically designed to engage representatives from various districts with different geographical coverage. These meetings aimed to ensure that the policy and framework considerations adequately addressed the specific challenges and opportunities faced at the regional, district and local level.

The collaborative efforts of sectoral focal points, partner national societies (PNs), and representatives from diverse geographic regions have greatly strengthened the inclusivity and effectiveness of the development process for the climate and environmental policy and strategic framework for action. This collective approach guarantees that the resulting policies and frameworks are all-encompassing, resilient, and in harmony with the needs and aspirations of NRCS and all stakeholders involved. This strategic framework for climate and environment action will serve as a strategic document to realize the climate and environment policies in all the NRCS services and operations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation and recognition to the esteemed members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), who were involved in leading the process of formulating the Climate and Environment Policy. The Advisory Group, who guided the entire process and strategic direction through their invaluable expertise and dedicated efforts, the TWG have played a pivotal role in collecting pertinent information, incorporating external ideas, synthesizing data, and supporting the external consultant in drafting the relevant policies and strategies.

We would like to express our gratitude for the unwavering commitment of TWG, whose dedication remained steadfast until the finalization of the policy and strategic framework. The collaborative spirit and expertise exhibited by the team composition, which includes the NRCS DM Director, IFRC Representative, representatives from all NRCS Departments and PNSs, the RCRC Climate Center, experts/consultants, and DM colleagues, have been instrumental in ensuring the comprehensive and inclusive nature of the policy and framework development process.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all involved for their invaluable contributions and support throughout this process. Members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) and Advisory Group are provided below:

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ABBREVIATION

CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CEA	Community Engagement and Accountability
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
FbF	Forecast based Financing
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
JYRC	Junior Red Cross Circle
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NRCS	Nepal Red Cross Society
PGI	Protection, Gender, and Inclusion
PNS	Partner National Societies
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
RCRC	Red Cross and Red Crescent
SFDRR	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risks Reduction
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
CBDRR	Community based disaster risk reduction
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
GLOFs	Glacier Lake Outburst Floods
GoN	Government of Nepal
UNFCCC-	UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

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Climate & Environment Context

Nepal is among the highly vulnerable country to climate change and other forms of disasters. Nepal along with the Himalayan Region has witnessed rapid rise of temperature and uncertainties in precipitation patterns. Nepal climate outlook study carried out in 2018 has projected that the average annual mean temperature will increase by 0.9–1.1 degrees Celsius (o C) in the medium-term period (2050) and 1.3 – 1.8oC in the long-term term (2100). Likewise, the average annual precipitation is likely to increase by 2–6% in the medium-term and 8–12% in the long-term period .

Paths of achieving targets of climate risk reductions come with challenges that include knowledge and data gaps, absence of enabling policy environment, inadequate financial and technical resources, and institutions. Some others fall in unknown category such as unanticipated political and economic crises that coincide with climate extremes. In order to reduce high vulnerability of a large section of Nepali population to climate risks with extremely low adaptive capacity, there is a need of concerted efforts on building our infrastructures, institutions, knowledgebase, and technological innovations.

Nepal is recognized as a pioneer country in framing community-based adaptation responses to climate change. A vast pool of knowledge and technologies are already available on DRR and CCA domains at different levels – local, national, and international. For example, community managed flood early warning systems, and local adaptation plan of action (LAPA) are among the tested technologies and approaches that have worked effectively. Geo-physical vulnerability maps and areas of highly vulnerable populations are being developed. There is a need to blend good practices from diverse domains into an integrated form of climate risk management. Relevant policies, plans and commitments of the Government of Nepal also highlight several priorities with regards to climate change and environment, as presented in below table.

Table 1: Government of Nepal - Policy wise priority on climate change and environment

Policies	Adaptation priority	Environmental priority
Climate Change Policy 2019 (CCP 2019)	Agriculture and food security Health, Water supply and sanitation.	Energy and energy efficiency
	Disaster risk reduction and management.	
	Housing and settlements Tourism and natural and cultural heritages.	
	Industry, transport and physical infrastructures.	
	Forests, biodiversity and watershed conservation.	

15th five yearly development plan (2019-2024)	Local adaptation plan will be developed and executed in 550 local units. Formulation of national adaptation plan to be implemented through local adaptation plans. 40% of land to be under forest cover and community-based forest management plans to be made effective to achieve the targets of carbon saving and ER. Promotion of climate friendly technologies in agriculture, water resources, energy, infrastructures and disaster risk management.	GHG emission levels of five sectors – transport, industry & commerce, agriculture, forests and agriculture to be referenced and monitored. Formulation and implementation of green development framework. Promotion of electric vehicles Identification and categorization of drivers of emission sources from five sectors. Promotion of remedial options to reduce emissions through development of reference level and historical trends.
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC, 2020)	Climate change adaptation at local level through Environment Friendly Local Governance (EFLG) Framework. Building climate resilience of vulnerable communities, ecosystems and infrastructures against climate hazards, Climate risk management across development sectors.	Renewable energy-based development path. Sustainable management of 40% forests. Environmentally sustainable transport. Waste management and air pollution control. Compliance with building code Climate friendly practices in agriculture.
SDG 2016-2030: Nepal Need Assessment & Financing Strategy	NPR 25.6 billion is the annual financial gap to achieve the SDG #13 (climate change). The average annual financial need to achieve all the targets is NPR 2025 billion.	Renewable energy driven development to contribute to arrest growth of emissions. Maintenance of eco-friendly and forest ecosystems.
Environment friendly local governance policy, 2013	Promote rainwater harvesting and ponds construction. Promote sustainable and organic farming and reduce the use of agro-chemicals. Increase disaster management skills at the local level. Control industrial pollution through effective regulations.	Promote renewable and clean energy and energy efficient technology. Increase greenery through tree plantation and management of gardens and parks. Plant trees in at least 10% of the current open/barren land. Enhance waste management through environment friendly technology.

The NRCS is one of the largest humanitarian organizations in Nepal and is recognized as the lead agency in humanitarian assistance and community care, as mandated by its auxiliary role to the public authorities of Nepal. NRCS has positioned itself in the diverse community services and working on the front line of any humanitarian crises maintains a strong collaboration with the government and communities in need both as the partner and beneficiaries. To this aspect, the nexus of environmental degradation and climate change impacts often creates a complex nature of vulnerability that needs special attention and preparedness to respond to humanitarian crises.

NRCS Climate and Environment Policy

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) has adopted the climate change and environment policy 2023 to address multi-dimensional impacts of climate change and environmental degradation. The policy has put forth a vision to position NRCS, a prominent actor accelerating climate and environmental action, to reduce the impacts of climate change and environment issues on the most vulnerable population of Nepal. To achieve this vison, NRCS will be continuously striving to expand its technical knowledge and institutional capacity on building climate resilience and environment sustainability and collaborate with relevant actors to tackle the growing humanitarian challenges. The policy priorities have been identified across three major aspects of climate change and environment, namely, climate change adaptation, mitigation, and environmental sustainability (see figure below).

In addition, the climate and environment policy has set out key fundamental values and approaches for climate and environmental action. This includes our approach regarding the road to resilience, our auxiliary role to public authorities, do no harm principle, collaboration, innovation, locally led action, PGI and CEA, youth engagement and behavioral change.
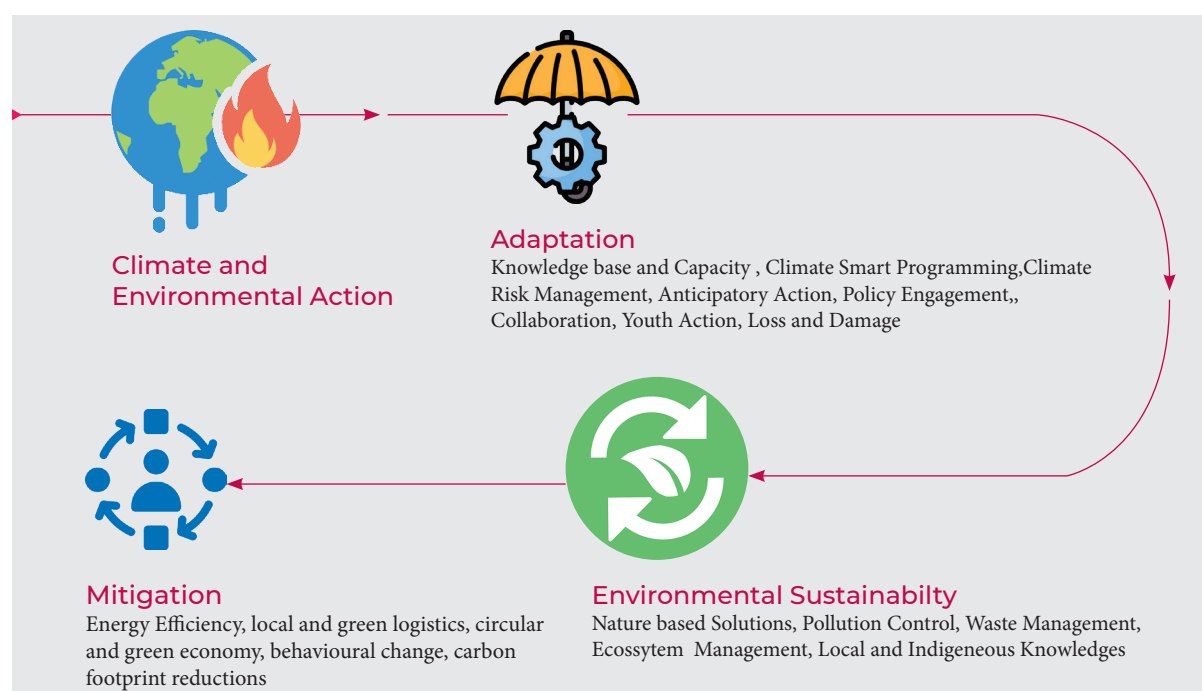

Climate and Environmental Action

Adaptation
Knowledge base and Capacity , Climate Smart Programming,Climate Risk Management, Anticipatory Action, Policy Engagement,, Collaboration, Youth Action, Loss and Damage

Environmental Sustainabilty
Nature based Solutions, Pollution Control, Waste Management, Ecossytem Management, Local and Indigeneous Knowledges

Mitigation
Energy Efficiency, local and green logistics, circular and green economy, behavioural change, carbon footprint reductions

Figure 1 Scope for the climate and environmental actions as guided by the policy.

The Strategic Framework of Action

This Climate Change and Environmental Strategic Framework of Action of the Nepal Red Cross Society underscores the strategic direction set by the policy documents, namely, the 8th Development Plan of NRCS, IFRC Strategy 2030 and National Climate Change Policy 2019 of Government of Nepal and will be contributing to the commitments set out by Climate and Humanitarian Charter, National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2021-2050 and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National strategic action plan (2018-2030) for DRR and Sustainable Development Goals of Nepal. In essence, this is the implementation framework of the strategic direction, objectives, and priorities of NRCS's Climate and Environment Policy 2023.
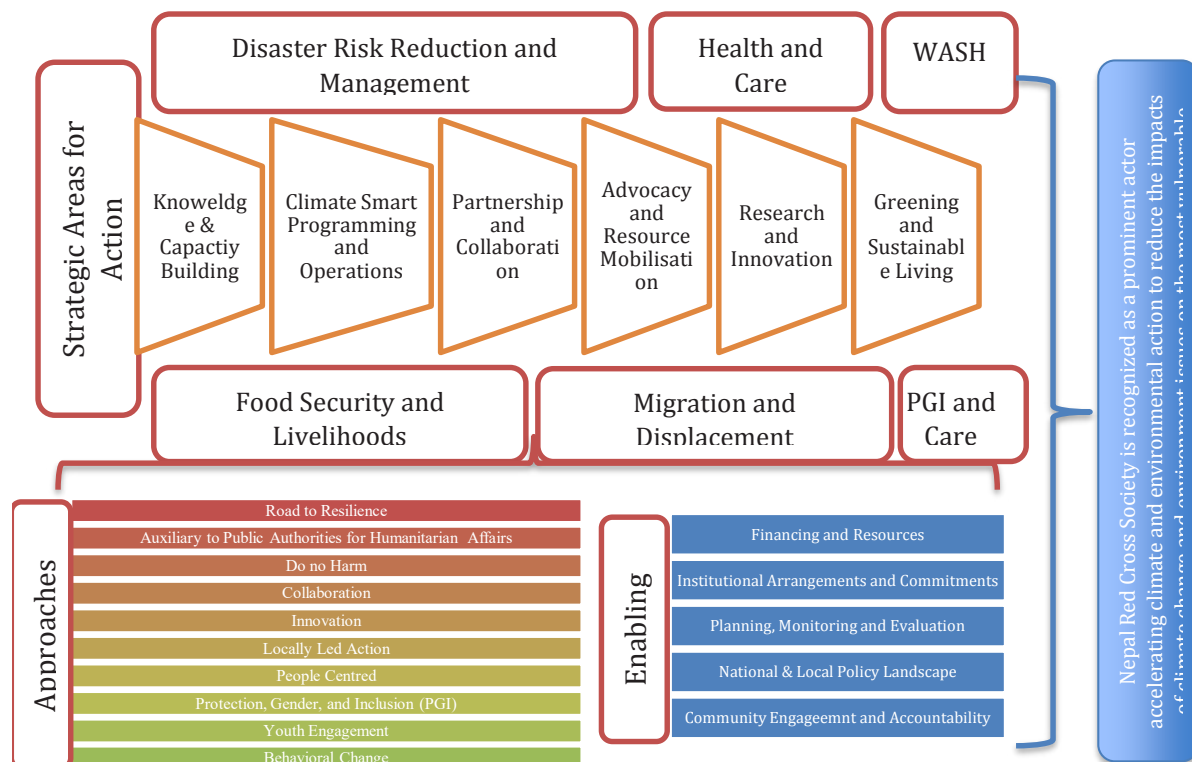

FIGURE 2 Strategic Framework for Climate and Environmental Action of Nepal Red Cross Society

The significance of this strategic framework lies in its mandate to translate the climate and environment policy into actions so that there are measurable progresses and desirable outcomes. Therefore, the strategic framework shall serve as an operational guide for the NRCS head office, province chapter, district chapter, local chapter including sub chapter, program, and project units to develop their respective policies, plans, programmes, and activities. The roles and responsibilities are illustrated in this strategic framework document. The NRCS thematic departments, Province chapter, District chapter and Subchapter shall implement the respective provisions described in this framework document independently or jointly with collaborating partners.

Climate change impacts have already exacerbated the risks in almost every aspect of the works and services that the NRCS has been executing, including the health, disaster response, and shelter, livelihoods, relief, services, protection & Inclusion of marginalized groups. . While many impacts are already being felt, and some others are observed at different stages such as extreme events and likely to increase in the future leading to add more uncertainties. Essentially, the

NRCS aims to tackle three major challenges posed by the climate change and environmental degradation as follows."

- Climate Change is increasing the intensity, frequency and uncertainty of weather and climate-related hazards, shocks, and stresses (which also include epidemic and pandemic risks). Climate change is exacerbating existing vulnerability to a range of hazards (for example, by the impact of recurrent shocks on people's assets, or through ecosystem degradation) especially when combined with other drivers of risk such as urbanization, conflict, and migration.
- The most vulnerable people have limited capacity to cope with and adapt to the changing weather and climate patterns and risk being left behind in national efforts to tackle climate resilience and sustainable development. For example, it is estimated that agricultural productivity may experience a decline of 9 to 21 percent due to the effects of climate change and vulnerable people will have limited options to adapt their practices or access alternative technologies and services.
- Mitigation measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are critical to prevent global warming from getting worse, and every individual, institution and nation has a role to play. Adoption of greening and environment friendly approaches will be the contribution on the broader climate change mitigation efforts and national and global commitments.

Strategic Areas

The NRCS has identified six strategic areas of engagement for climate change and environmental actions. They are as follows:

Knowledge and Capacity Building

Equipping peole with essential knowledge and information of climate and environmental risk informed practices is instrumental to achieve the climate and environmental outcomes for the NRCS, which are limited at present. Strengthening institutional capacity starts with understanding the risks of climate change and environmental degradation associated with NRCS priority actions. This includes building capacity of the various NRCS institutional units within and beyond its network with scientific knowledge on multi-dimensional impacts of climate change and environmental degradations. Essential elements of knowledge and capacity building actions require to be integrated to the existing and future planning of sectoral and crosscutting programs and projects particularly targeted to the most vulnerable communities. The Climate and Environment Policy of NRCS prioritizes sensitization and capacity building of its Red Cross volunteers' network and staff and JYRC at all levels on climate change and environmental issues to enable them to serve vulnerable communities in context of changing climate risk and weather extremes. This means, the NRCS will be utilizing RCRC Movement resources and climate reference centres to undertake a series of capacity building activities for its sectoral lead along with province, district and project staff members, and the volunteers and local communities. The NRCS will take stock of the baseline situation of existing institutional capacity and knowledge on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and environment sustainability. The NRCS will also encourage and advocate for inclusion of climate change and environment related topics and issues in regular syllabus of school education system.

Climate Smart Programming and Operations

Thousands of officials and volunteers of NRCS workforce engage in the frontline of humanitarian services to the affected and the most vulnerable communities through regular programme operations and emergency services. Almost all of NRCS's interventions can be affected by changing weather patterns and longer-term changes, so planning climate-smart programmes is equally relevant for long-term resilience programme, response preparedness and humanitarian emergency and recovery operations. At minimum, we need to ensure our work doesn't place people at increased risk in the future, particularly considering likely new climate-related extreme weather events and growing vulnerabilities. And, when possible, we should enable people to anticipate, and adapt to the direct and indirect impacts of climate change. Being climate-smart means NRCS will be using climate information across timescales. i.e., weather, and seasonal forecasts (days and months) and climate projections (years and decades) in our plans, programmes, and activities, while collaborating closely with governments across various line ministries, climate and weather specialists and other stakeholders in order to reduce risks and vulnerabilities related to climate change and variability. Additionally, NRCS will be reviewing and revisiting all its strategies, policies, guidelines, SOPs at all levels and aligning them with the strategic direction set out by this climate and environment policy document.

Partnership and Collaboration

Considering the nexus of the climate change and environmental issues that encompass through the multi-disciplinary silos, cross-disciplinary responses are needed. They cannot be addressed in isolation, and therefore require wider solidarity, strategic partnership and collaboration both at home country and abroad. The NRCS as a network-based lead humanitarian agency of Nepal with auxiliary role to the government services will be mobilizing its existing capacity to expand its partnership and collaboration to accommodate the climate change and environmental issues. To this purpose, it will mobilize its goodwill as the leading and credible humanitarian agency of Nepal to create an enabling environment from three aspects. First, partnership with government policy and plans at three levels of government, federal, provincial and local through coordination with the Ministry of Forest and Environment, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration. Second, building partnership with the Ministry of Finance to scale up access and implementation of international climate finance for the most vulnerable and locally led action. Third, enabling civil, academic and policy research institutions to build scientific knowledge as well as climate change and environment safeguard measures through partnerships with international partners. Additionally, taking account of the action gaps, the NRCS will be collaborating with humanitarian institutions, government entities, civic and community organizations, and private sectors to scale up its climate change adaptation efforts, ensuring meaningful participation of marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Advocacy and Resource Mobilization

Climate change and environmental advocacy is critical for advancing humanitarian works based on informed scientific knowledge and practices, which is missing from the spectrum of NRCS initiatives. Addressing the gap means not only securing space for climate and environmental policy agendas but also ensuring access to resources for a good cause. Additionally, the NRCS aims to play influential roles in critical issues of climate change and environment management. The NRCS has been engaged with many national and international agencies on climate change and environmental policy actions. Strengthening the visibility and position as a stakeholder, an

expert, and a partner of choice in reducing risks and supporting adaptation to climate change, particularly at the community level, will require increased efforts.

As required by the government, the NRCS has been supporting public authorities in addressing climate risks on major decision-making at the national, provincial, and local level. Additionally, NRCS will be supporting governments and public authorities in localizing and operationalizing national climate change policies and plans and scale up ambitions and actions (both on adaptation and mitigation). This includes engagement in the implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAP) to reflect the needs and interests of the most vulnerable communities. The NRCS engagements with partners and communities will be guided by the common interests of promoting integration of climate risk management and disaster risk reduction into the sectoral programs that aim to support the most vulnerable, including the use of social safety nets policies and programs, to sustainably address the root causes of vulnerability and scale up humanitarian support for the most vulnerable.

 At the sub-national and local level, the NRCS will be engaged in the development of local climate change adaptation and disaster risk management plans, programmes proposals and investment strategies and ensure all these are beneficial and addresses the needs of the most vulnerable. NRCS will be promoting public advocacy campaigns and awareness raising activities with communities, schools, and other civil society organizations on the need to scale up climate action.

Specifically, the NRCS shall position itself as a leading climate actor through policy engagement, and humanitarian diplomacy at national, regional, and global level. This involves strengthening of institutional structures at all levels aimed at accessing and mobilizing the climate finances and resources, including public, bilateral, multilateral, international, and private sectors, and ensure adequate resources are in place for executing its climate smart programming and operations.

Research and Innovation

Research and innovation are instrumental for translating the vision into action particularly for adding value to the conventional knowledge, practices, or technologies. There are no readymade solutions to tackle the unfolding climate hazards, impacts and pattern of risks associated with them. Therefore, conventional practices and knowledge are always inadequate or unfit to some extent. Keep exploring the ways to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of technologies and practices is the new mantra for addressing climate risks cost effectively.

The NRCS is at the best position to generate practiced based knowledge and innovation that may help leverage its initiatives to the next level. In the absence of this action, the institution may end up reinventing the wheel. In order to capitalize the opportunities of research and innovations, they need to be structured into the programme monitoring and evaluation with the objective of creating research-based knowledge and dissemination within and outside the organization. They are invaluable for raising the organizational profile and positioning and writing programme and project proposals. The vast documentation of programme operations itself serves as the source of knowledge and practice innovation if put into a research perspective to draw on lessons learned, and innovation made while implementing the programmes and projects.

Institutionally, efforts will be placed on fostering research and innovation to understand and

scale up climate and environmental action and ensure all the work/interventions of NRCS are risk informed and evidence based. The NRCS, through support of the IFRC, Climate Centre and others will be developing and operationalizing appropriate tools and guidelines to support innovative dialogue and capacity building in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction processes. As there is no dedicated research department in the NRCS, establishment of one would serve the long-term interest of the organization.

Greening and Sustainable Living

While the priority focus is on reducing the impact of climate change and variability, the NRCS also put forth a strong commitment to reduce carbon footprint and promote environmental sustainability in all its programmes and humanitarian operations. The NRCS will strive to take account of carbon footprint and GHGs emission in its programmes so that appropriate mitigative measures can be implemented in the forms of energy efficient upgrades, sustainable waste management and greening of programme operations. The sustained and trusted presence of the NRCS-led Red Cross and Red Crescent movements in Nepal with strong bonding with communities and their members is a formidable asset in promoting greening and environmental sustainability. In recognition of the degraded environment, the NRCS will launch a Green Response Approach to minimize adverse impact on the environmental stresses resulting from emergency operations, and greater accountability to the affected population, by actively promoting alternative, less environmentally harmful solutions in addressing needs. Much of the Green Response Approach is undertaken before disaster happens, through planning and assessments. The Green Response Approach seeks to promote voluntary guidelines and standards to support Movement partners in implementing a green response.

Sectoral Climate & Environmental Policy Action

Based on the IFRC Unified Plan and NRCS's consolidated National Society Development (NSD) Plan, NRCS 8th Development Plan (2021-2026) key working sectors have been identified for which several strategic actions have been envisioned. Linking climate and environment policy priorities with the NRCS's diverse sectoral portfolios is highly cross cutting in nature due to competing sectoral needs. Therefore, the actions are identified as per strategic areas for each sectoral portfolios, so that the policy priorities can be realized in the operational context of NRCS. While the NRCS have considerable experience in health, disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response, there are areas in which the NRCS may need to draw on expertise and scientific knowledge of partners in order to make the service delivery climate smart, and strengthen the visibility and credibility as a strong actor in climate and environment.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

Strategic Area	Outcome	Strategic Action	Indicator
Knowledge & Capacity building	Improved knowledge and capacity on climate risk management.	• Build institutional mechanisms to generate knowledge, access information on forecasts and early warnings, and green resilience approaches for response and recovery. • Increase knowledge on multi-hazard approach to disaster risk reduction and enhance capacity to implement multi-hazard early warning systems. • Develop a dedicated institutional arrangements to lead the work on climate and environment, as a cross cutting to all working sectors, services, and operations • Increase knowledge and capacity of volunteers and staff on climate change and implication. • Enhance capacity of pool of volunteers on different capacities/ roster/ on concept of green response, climate change and environmental sustainability	• Basic knowledge on Climate change and environmental awareness is in place across NRCS staff and volunteers operating at all levels. • Separate institutional arrangement with knowledge and capacity on climate and environment exist at different level

Research Innovation		
Research and innovative approaches adopted as a practice to explore and monitor DRRM in the context of rapidly changing climate.	• Promote research on linking indigenous knowledge with science and innovation for climate smart practices at local level. • Institutionalize research and knowledge generation actions on Climate Change and multi hazard risk reduction. • Localize National Disaster Information Management System (BIPAD portal) • Promote and operationalize impact-based forecasting for early action. • Promote collaboration with research institutions on disaster and climate related research. • Support in the regular revision and update of hazard and impact threshold and trigger for early warning and early action • Scale up Forecast-based Financing (FbF)/Anticipatory Action -as an innovative approach to humanitarian preparedness and response across the country, covering multiple hazards like floods, landslides, heatwaves, cold waves, fires, lightening, windstorms etc. • Promote innovative risk financing/transfer mechanisms like parametric insurance (weather index based) for broader resilience building of communities. • Utilize Artificial Intelligence (AI), drones and available technologies for search, rescue, relief as well as response operation management	• All the DRRM programmes and projects include innovative approaches and new ideas in relation to addressing increasing climate risks. • Disaster and Climate related research are jointly undertaken with research institutes and reference centres and disseminated widely on regular basis.

Thematic area	Outcome	Activities	Targets
Greening & Sustainable Living	Sustainable and green technologies and practices are employed to promote conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystems services.	• Capacitate communities to mobilize volunteers for maintaining fire lines, controlling fire incidents, campaigning for plantation of suitable species. • Promote renewable and sustainable products, greenery in NRCS day to day services and programs. • Take account of carbon footprint/ecological footprint and environmental costs. • Drive for greening the operations at individual to organization level and environmental safeguards. • Prioritize local and indigenous practices linking with modern/scientific technology. • Emphasize environment and greenery consideration while designing DRRM at all levels. • Adopt bioengineering to stabilize slopes and landslides, by reducing risks and vulnerabilities. • Mobilize NRCS institutional network/strengthen for tree plantation, promotion of greenery, pollution control, behavior change. • Explore and implement environmentally sustainable practices in all its DRRM interventions that give multiple benefits to the communities.	• At least 50% of procurements of goods and services for effective DRRM are green, renewable and energy efficient. • Climate and environment conservation measures are inducted in DRRM guidelines and code of conduct of NRCS officials and volunteers
Climate Smart Programming	Use and application of climate information across timescales in the design and implementation of DRRM related activities	• Design and implement DRRM relevant nature-based solutions such as green corridor for river, slope protection and bioengineering. • Assess effective climate resilient measures using community dimensions/tools/approach for programme planning and operations. • Enhance access to the community-based early-warning systems to serve the needs and priorities of the communities at risk. • Adopt multi hazard approach to generate messages from early warning systems and communicate the information to the at-risk downstream community. • Equip with advanced risk assessment approaches and technologies to advance DRRM. • Promote anticipatory action/forecast based action approaches with DRRM programmes and projects. • Adopt climate risk informed and environmentally responsible values and practices while working with communities on climate smart programming.	• Appropriate tools and technologies designed for climate smart response measures are identified, adopted, and practiced in all DRRM initiatives.

Partnership and Collaboration	Partnership with existing and future collaborators to foster implementation of disaster management and climate change programing at local national and international level.	• Engage and disseminate good practices and learnings of climate smart disaster risk management at national, regional, and international forums. • Foster partnerships that enhance locally led adaptation in the most at-risk communities. • Collaborate with government and partners to mainstream Anticipatory Action (AA) approaches in disaster risk continuum. • Explore opportunities, partnership, and collaboration to build connections with CC networks and forums at all levels including the PPP. • Comply with green standard while implementing programme and organizing activities including disaster response operation. • Mobilize institutional capacity/network including Junior/Youth Red Cross Circle for awareness, risk reduction and advocacy.	• Partners and collaborators jointly take forward climate risk management including increased financial or technical cooperation across disaster risk reduction and management.
Advocacy & Resource Mobilization	Strong policy engagement with government authorities including joint resource mobilization for climate change adaptation and disaster management.	• Advocate for ecosystem based DRRM to mainstream climate risks at all levels of Red Cross movements together with diverse stakeholders. • Adapt inclusive DRRM with climate change issues in education curriculum. • Raise awareness on climate and environmental impacts. • Promote climate smart development approach with relevant renewable, sustainable, and green technologies in DRRM actions. • Ensure sustained flow of resources, a dedicated focal person/ institutional structure to facilitate the mainstream of climate and environmental actions across all the NRCS programmes and activities. • Foster policy dialogue and actions on climate-humanitarian nexus at all levels. • Engage in the discussions on climate financing and green climate fund and collaborate with other partners and government in the mobilization of such resources for local action.	• Joint advocacy messaging on climate and disaster risk financing for local action • Access to different kinds of financing instruments and mechanisms to implement locally led climate and environmental action

Health and Care

Strategic Area	Outcome	Strategic Action	Indicator
Knowledge & Capacity	Improved knowledge, understanding and capacity on climate change and environment to address the health impacts and risk from climate and environmental change	• Address climate and environmental impacts on health by raising awareness and capacity to access services utilizing the IEC/BCC tools and techniques. • Strengthen human resource capacity and health care systems by provisioning climate and environmental safeguard measures.	• Climate change and environmental awareness and safeguard measures are identified and adopted in 80% of health care initiatives.
Research Innovation	Research and innovative approaches are adopted to explore and monitor health care & potential health crises in the context of climate change and environmental degradation.	• Persuade research and innovations used for addressing community health care and health emergencies relating to climate and environment change. • Support tracking and dissemination of early warning systems for climate induced health hazards and impacts. • Initiate climate and environmental health surveillance and database mechanism. • Initiate community-based research practices on interlinkages between psychological health issues and impacts of climatic extremities and environmental hazards. • Implement and scale up AA/FbF approaches for health-related hazards and impacts (especially the heatwaves and cold waves)	• All the health and care programmes and projects include innovative approaches and new ideas in relation to addressing increasing climate and health risks. • Findings from climate-environment-health related research are documented and disseminated widely on regular basis.

Theme	Description	Actions	Indicators
Greening & Sustainable Living	Use of sustainable and green technologies for health care services, health infrastructures and operating systems.	• Ensure or optimize procurement of green, renewable, and environmentally friendly equipment and technologies for health care, awareness, and emergency services. • Prevent and minimize health impacts due to pollution of air, water, soil, and other hazards. • Promote one health(Human, Animal and Environment) approach to strengthen nature-health continuum. • Establish and operationalize medical waste management systems employing clean and energy efficient techniques, and solar powered incinerators among others.	• 50% of procurements of goods and services for health care, health infrastructures and emergencies are green, renewable and energy efficient. • Climate and environment conservation measures are inducted in health service protocols as well as in ethical guidelines or code of conduct of NRCS officials and volunteers.
Climate Smart Programming	Appropriate climate-smart practices are adopted across the components of health programming while recognizing the interconnectedness of climate change, environmental sustainability, and human well-being.	• Assess the risks associated with climate and environmental change in all our health-related programmes initiatives and develop response measures. • Scale up climate-health awareness and community campaigning through NRCS networks utilizing the appropriate tools and techniques. • Apply a minimum standard protocol for climate smart health services in all health interventions . • Strengthen community health services in response to increased risks of climate induced health hazards and their impacts. • Develop and implement anticipatory action protocols/Early action targeting climate induced health hazards and their impacts.	• All the health programme and projects are climate sensitive, while 50 % of them are climate smart.

Partnership and Collaboration	Enhanced collaboration and partnership with sectoral actors at all levels for integration of climate and environment considerations in health sector	• Convene dialogues with partners and collaborators engaged in health programme for climate and environment risk integration. • Advocate the agendas of climate and environment risk associated with health with stakeholders like government, civil society, private sector, academia as a basis for future partnership and collaborations.	• Partners and collaborators jointly take forward climate and environmental risk management in health-related programming including increased financial or technical cooperation.
Advocacy & Resource Mobilization	Improved advocacy and financing for integrating the climate and environment agendas in all aspects of programming and initiatives of health and care.	• Develop and disseminate advocacy messages on climate related health issues. • Foster policy dialogue and actions on climate-environment- health nexus at all levels. • Identify and mobilize the local, national, and international resources on climate and environment actions relating to health and care.	• Continued advocacy on the climate consideration on health and health • Collective mobilization of resources for climate smart health programmes and operations

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Strategic Area	Outcome	Strategic Action	Indicator
Knowledge & Capacity	Improved knowledge, understanding and capacity on climate change and environment in relation to WASH programmes and initiatives	• Conduct a comprehensive analysis of WASH risks and identify the most crucial climate-related risks affecting WASH services and communities. • Enhance the data management system to effectively capture and analyze the impacts of climate change on water resources sanitation and services. • Evaluate and assess various options to mitigate identified WASH risks, aiming to minimize exposure and vulnerability. Strengthen capacities at all levels and establish a unified path forward for the successful implementation of climate-resilient measures. • Develop a set of smart indicators for identified options to effectively monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the climate resilience WASH program implementation.	• Climate change and environmental awareness and capacities in place in the implementation of all WASH initiatives.
Research Innovation	Research and innovative approaches are embraced into WASH initiatives.	• Enhance water safety measures, including the implementation of Climate smart resilient water safety plans (CRWSP) and regular water quality testing. • Strengthen water security efforts, specifically addressing water quantity concerns such as source depletion. Address the underlying causes, such as water-intensive energy production, and consider the resulting effects such as increased water costs and potential affordability challenges. • Mitigate water conflicts through improved water governance mechanisms and practices. • Address water scarcity and associated socio-economic issues through effective water resource management practices considering non-revenue water. • Develop the case for comprehensive waste management strategies, including efficient drainage systems, proper sludge management, waste segregation, and effective waste management practices. • Tackle sanitation and hygiene challenges, including the reduction of water borne diseases and the improvement of menstrual hygiene management practices.	• A number of Climate responsive research and innovative approaches are systematically integrated into WASH initiatives and practices.

			Indicators
Greening & Sustainable Living	Sustainable and environmentally friendly technologies and practices are employed to foster the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystem services.	• Provision of WASH services in keen consideration of using renewable energy sources in maximization of technological innovation and use. • Improve water and multiple uses of sanitation, and energy efficiency under WASH programme to enhance water and energy efficiency, resulting in resource conservation and boosting ecological balance in sustainable practices. • Encourage and promote research based indigenous practices that uphold the protection and preservation of water resources, respecting and drawing upon traditional knowledge and wisdom.	• Number of adoption and utilization of sustainable and environmentally friendly technologies and practices in the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystem services within WASH programs.
Climate Smart Programming	Integrated climate-smart programming into community-led WASH initiatives, infrastructure, services, and behaviors while recognizing the interconnections of climate change, environmental sustainability, and human well-being.	• Develop tailored sanitation programming specifically designed for communities facing high climate-related risks, considering their unique circumstances and vulnerabilities. • Implement comprehensive measures to address multi-dimensional water scarcity in target communities, aiming to achieve a more sustainable and rational use of water, while emphasizing on multiple uses of water. • Develop and implement water demand management strategies and prioritize water source protection initiatives at the basin level to ensure sustainable water management practices. • Scale up climate-resilient WASH services through direct or indirect interventions, ensuring they are capable of withstanding and recovering from climate shocks and stresses. • Identify and prioritize areas most impacted by climate hazards, with low service levels, high vulnerability, and significant inequities, particularly among populations experiencing poverty. • Assess WASH programme design to foster and sustain household income generation and/or food security (for example, the re-use of water for agriculture and other multiple uses of water) in areas impacted by climate change	• All the WASH programme and projects are climate sensitive, while 50 % of them are climate smart.

		Activities	Indicators
Partnership and Collaboration	Established partnership with existing and future collaborators to foster implementation of WASH related programing at local national and international level.	• Facilitate collaboration and engage in joint advocacy efforts with partners to promote equitable water allocation across various sectors, emphasizing the importance of integrated water resource management. • Scale up partnerships for capacity building initiatives focused on WASH and climate resilience development, fostering collaboration among stakeholders to enhance knowledge, skills, and resources in this field. • Collaborate with local, national, and international agencies, as well as national and local organizations, to develop climate proposals for funding from Green Climate Fund, Adaptation fund and other climate funds; and implement climate-resilient WASH activities through co-funding mechanisms.	• Number of established partnerships with existing and potential collaborators to facilitate the implementation of WASH-related programming at the local, national, and international levels.
Advocacy & Resource Mobilization	Improved policy engagement with government authorities for mobilizing resources for climate resilient WASH.	• Engage in regular advocacy efforts targeting communities, leaders, and decision-makers to raise awareness and promote the importance of climate-resilient WASH practices. • Advocacy for sufficient resource and capacity to local needs in risk management, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change • Advocate for the establishment of a water resource monitoring system at the local level to enhance data collection and inform decision-making related to water resources management.	• Increased policy engagement with government authorities to mobilize resources for climate-resilient WASH, • Increased number of policy dialogues, partnership agreements, and funding allocations secured for climate-resilient WASH initiatives.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Strategic Area	Outcome	Strategic Action	Indicator
Knowledge & Capacity	Knowledge and capacity on climate induced livelihood risks managed is improved	• Assess climate risks using appropriate tools to develop baseline status of climate change impacts on food security and livelihood. • Conduct climate impact survey at the community and regional levels to help identify vulnerabilities and potential impacts. • Organize awareness campaigns to educate communities about climate change impacts, sustainable practices, and climate-smart technologies. • Disseminate information on climate-resilient farming techniques including research based indigenous practices, renewable energy options, and sustainable resource management. • Establish monitoring and evaluation systems to determine effectiveness and impact of climate-smart livelihood initiatives. • Share lessons learned, best practices, and success stories through knowledge-sharing platforms that can scale up and replicate successful climate-smart approaches. • Improve capacity of farmers in climate smart agricultural practices	• Capacities and knowledge on climate resilient livelihood and nature friendly practices are in place in all livelihood programs and projects.
Research Innovation	Carried out periodical research and innovations on climate induced risk to livelihood	• Conduct research to assess the current and future impacts of climate change on different livelihood sectors and vulnerable communities. • Research and implement climate-smart technologies and practices that can enhance livelihoods while minimizing environmental impacts. • Engage local communities and stakeholders in participatory research processes to co-create climate-smart solutions.	• Research on climate resilient farming and livelihood diversification are undertaken and their findings disseminated annually as resource materials for raising awareness and knowledge on such practices.

Area	Outcome	Actions	Indicators
Greening & Sustainable Living	Food security and Livelihood services with appropriate solutions for low-carbon sustainable living is improved	• Promote climate-resilient farming practices, such as crop diversification, intercropping, conservation of agriculture, agroforestry, and water-efficient irrigation. • Promote climate resilient livestock management and practices, such as improved shed, balanced feeding, and proper health care. • Identify and implement context-specific strategies to reduce climate-related livelihood risks. • Facilitate the adoption of renewable energy technologies such as irrigation, preparation, production, and distribution to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change, including promoting solar power, wind energy, biomass energy. • Promotion of NTFP (Non-Timber Forest Product) to enhance the livelihood -income generation opportunities.	• 50% of procurements of goods and services for livelihoods are green, renewable and energy efficient. • Climate and environment conservation measures are inducted in livelihood initiatives as well as in ethical guidelines or code of conduct of NRCS officials and volunteers.
Climate Smart Programming	Climate-smart programming is integrated into community livelihood initiatives, recognizing the interconnections between climate change, environmental sustainability, and human well-being.	• Enhance access of farmers and communities with to climate information, weather forecasts, and advanced agricultural technologies can assist in making informed decisions. • Promote the use of climate and seasonal outlook information for livelihood related actions and agricultural practices. • Capacitate on climate-smart agriculture practices, sustainable land management and livestock. • Support the development of climate-smart value chains that integrate climate change considerations from production to market. • Promoting climate-smart practices in livestock management, such as improved breed selection, feed management, disease control measures and integrated pest management • Increase investment in sustainable food security and livelihood opportunities for climate and weather associated in migration and displacement. • Promote sustainable agricultural technology including water and energy efficient irrigation. • Promote crops and livestock insurance. • Promote climate smart small business such as, production of plastic items from plastic waste.	• Appropriate tools and technologies are adopted for climate smart practices in all livelihood initiatives.

Partnership and Collaboration	Partnership and collaboration established at local national and international level to foster implementation of livelihood related climate change programing	• Promote collaboration among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and communities to foster innovation and knowledge-sharing. This involves forging partnerships with universities, research institutions, NGOs, and government agencies to leverage expertise, resources, and networks. • Coordinate with innovative financial instruments, such as weather-based insurance, microfinance, and savings schemes, to help manage climate-related livelihood risks. • Partner with government for connecting social safety nets and social protection mechanisms can provide a safety net for vulnerable communities affected by climate change	• Number of established partnerships with existing and potential collaborators to facilitate the implementation of livelihood-related programming that are climate resilient and nature friendly.
Advocacy & Resource Mobilization	Advocacy and resource mobilization strategy in place for livelihood related climate advocacy	• Promote and advocate for climate smart livelihood approaches at local and national level. • Develop and update policies, resources, dedicated units, knowledge, funding. • Foster policy dialogue and actions on climate smart livelihood options • Develop and disseminate advocacy messages on climate related livelihood issues. • Promote agricultural technology including drip irrigation, rainwater and wastewater harvesting. • Promote funding opportunities and support mechanisms for climate-smart research and innovation in livelihood programming. • Facilitate the communities or families in need of climate finance and resources to support climate-smart livelihood initiatives. • Improve capacity of extension staff and farmers in climate smart agricultural practices • Raise awareness about the relationship between climate change and migration, both among affected communities and policymaker • Educate farmers to use climate (forecasting) information during farming, harvesting, and storing to minimize untoward loss. • Support the vulnerable farmers to adapt climate friendly agricultural products	• Increased policy engagement with government authorities to mobilize resources for climate-resilient livelihoods and food security programmes. • Increased number of policy dialogues, partnership agreements, and funding allocations secured for climate-resilient livelihood initiatives.

Migration and Displacement

Strategic Area	Outcome	Strategic Action	Indicator
Knowledge & Capacity	Knowledge and capacity on climate induced migration and displacement is strengthened.	• Study the factors behind temporary and permanent migration and identify the possible measures to address those issues. • Identify the critical needs of the vulnerable communities and invest to minimize the risks that might contribute to reducing poverty and migration.	• Climate change and environmental awareness and safeguard measures are identified and adopted in all migration and displacement related programmes and initiatives.
Research Innovation	Research and innovation on climate induced migration and displacement	• Research and studies on internal and external migration due to climate induced disasters, both sudden and slow-onset disasters and its impact • Promote research and understanding on climate and conflict nexus. • Enhance data collection and monitoring systems to better understand the impacts of climate change on migration patterns	• All the migration and displacement related interventions and programmes are built on strong research and evidence on climate and displacement.
Greening & Sustainable Living	Improved livelihood services for migrants with appropriate solutions for low-carbon sustainable living.	• Explore sustainable and climate smart livelihood options to reduce the impact of migration. • Conduct environmental education and awareness campaigns to promote sustainable living practices among migrants and host communities.	• 50% of procurements of goods and services for migrants and displacement population are locally produced and low carbon produce materials.

Climate Smart Programming	Climate-smart programming is integrated into migration/ displacement related interventions, recognizing the interconnections between climate change, environmental sustainability, and human well-being.	• Support the development and implementation of community-based adaptation strategies and alternate livelihood options in areas prone to climate-induced migration. • Incorporate sustainable design principles in the construction or renovation of shelters, refugee camps, and other settlement areas	• Appropriate tools and technologies are adopted for climate smart interventions in addressing migration and displacement issues.
Partnership and Collaboration	Established partnership and collaboration at local national and international level to foster implementation of migration related climate change programing	• Partner and collaborate with diaspora for climate safe action. • Facilitate collaboration among various stakeholders, including governments, NGOs, academia, and local communities to promote knowledge sharing, resource mobilization, and coordinated efforts to address climate change-related migration.	• Number of established partnerships with existing and potential collaborators on climate impacts on migration and displacement at the local, national, and international levels.

Advocacy & Resource Mobilization	Advanced the policy priorities and resource mobilization strategy in place for migration and displacement related climate advocacy	• Advocate for the integration of climate change and migration considerations into national policies. • Develop climate-safe migration messages. • Advocate for livelihood financing option to reduce migration.	• Increased policy engagement with government authorities on climate and displacement issues • Increased number of policy dialogues, partnership agreements, and funding allocations to address climate and environmental impacts on the migration and displacement.

Protection and Gender Inclusion

- Promote awareness on climate education through gender lens.
- Promote women leadership as decision-maker for sustainable Climate and environment action.
- Foster tailor made climate action to enable protection of at-risk communities, inclusion, and equitable participation.
- Collect and analyze SAAD disaggregated data to understand the specific vulnerabilities, capacities, and needs of girls and boys, women, and men in the context of climate change.
- Support gender-responsive agricultural practices that enhance climate resilience, improve food security, and empower women farmers.
- Promote gender-inclusive approaches to renewable energy access and distribution. Ensure that women and marginalized communities have equal opportunities to benefit from and participate in the renewable energy sector, including access to clean cooking solutions and income-generating activities.
- Integrate gender considerations into climate change adaptation planning and implementation. Address the specific needs and priorities of women and marginalized communities in designing and implementing adaptation strategies, including access to resources, health services meaningful participation and social protection.
- Design and implement protection, gender and inclusion programmes focusing on the people most affected by climate and environmental crisis.
- Engage in dialogue, research, knowledge sharing, and joint action to advance climate-smart gender approaches.

Other Related NRCS's Programme/Activities

There can be other services, programmes and activities of Nepal Red Cross that may not fall on aforementioned sectoral portfolios. So, for any such programmes and activities, it is necessary to align them with the climate and environment policy priorities.

Enabling Environment/Factors

Creating an enabling environment is crucial for effective execution of this strategic framework. The NRCS has identified five enabling factors to support in the roll out of climate and environment policy and implementation of strategic action . They are: i) Financing and resources, ii) institutional arrangement, iii) Planning, monitoring, and evaluation, iv) community engagement and accountability, and v) National and Local policy landscape.

Financing and resources

The NRCS need to strategically engage with present and future partners and collaborators at different levels from local to national and international to secure and mobilize necessary resources for addressing growing climate and environmental risks. Accordingly, efforts should be put in place to diversify the funding base of NRCS to include local funds such as those of municipal, philanthropic and businesses through joint partnership and collaboration. Tenured employees and volunteers need to be trained to mobilize five categories of capital assets, namely, human capital, natural capital, financial capital, physical capital, and social capital with the aim of building resilience and risk reductions. Additionally, the NRCS needs to engage with bi-lateral and multilateral donors, fund managers and private sectors for sustained financing

to implement climate change and environmental measures into its programs and projects. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other sources of international climate finance require concerted efforts for which the NRCS and the other national/international accredited entities including the GCF Division of the Ministry of Finance can work together.

Institutional Arrangements and Commitments

Institutional reform and restructuring are the next important enabling factors. Ensuring higher levels of commitment to climate smart programming and green operation across the office systems, functions, service provisions and supply chain is the fundamental commitment required to kick start and sustain the process. To accelerate climate and environmental action requires sustained efforts and prioritization of research, innovation, and digitization of the documenting process, resource mobilization, financing and building strategic partnership.

Planning monitoring, and evaluation

Strengthening the self-sustained system of planning, monitoring, and evaluation is another enabling factor of strategic importance. Success of this effort is also linked to the systematic practices of documentation, research-based knowledge generation, innovation, and learning opportunities. A culture of publication and dissemination of research, lessons learned and open dialogue platforms for knowledge and experience sharing is recognized as a proven technique to strengthen the enabling environment. Guided by the policy statements and associated strategic actions identified by this framework, all the sectoral departments of NRCS need to develop their sectoral climate and environmental action plan indicating activities in short-term, midterm and long terms with specific timeframe and indicators to implement, monitor and evaluate them.

National & local CCA Policy landscape

Mapping of policy and institutional landscape of national and local level practices of climate change adaptation and aligning with them through proactive engagement and commitments shall significantly contribute to creating an enabling environment for climate change action. The mandatory provision of the National Climate Change Policy 2019 requires spending over 80% of climate funds at local level and offers a strategic space to leverage NRCS for climate action through its largest networks of local and community scales. Additionally, climate actions at the local level are instrumental for avoiding maladaptation.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Finally, community engagement and accountability (CEA) is the next valuable enabling factor to the NRCS as the NRCS principle for creating a cycle of learning and relearning with community actors for enhancing trust and cooperation. The NRCS has also embraced CEA as one of the guiding approach towards climate and environmental action.

Roles and Responsibilities

(a) NRCS Central executive committee/NRCS leadership:
Nepal Red Cross Society Central executive members endorse climate policy and framework that align with the organization's mission and values. They take ownership of these policies

and ensure their effective implementation within the organization. They promote climate-friendly practices, advocate for sustainable development, and encourage the adoption of climate adaptation and mitigation measures. By endorsing and owning climate policies, they demonstrate the Red Cross's commitments.

NRCS central executive members engage in national advocacy and diplomacy to influence climate policy at various levels. They collaborate with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international institutions to advocate for policies that prioritize climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian response. They participate in diplomatic negotiations, conferences, and forums to raise awareness about the humanitarian impacts of climate change and advocate for the need.

(b) Sectoral departments

Sectoral departments of NRCS have a critical role in implementing climate policy and frameworks by translating overarching goals into sector-specific actions, ensuring alignment with climate policies, mobilizing resources, fostering coordination and partnerships, promoting research and innovation, and monitoring progress and quality.

- Roll out policies and strategic actions: Sectoral departments are responsible for translating overarching climate policies and strategies into specific actions within their respective sectors. They develop and implement sector-specific policies, plans, and programs to address climate change challenges and contribute to national climate goals.
- Ensure alignment with climate and environment policy: Sectoral departments ensure that all their programs, projects, and operations align with climate and environment policies and framework. This involves integrating climate considerations into decision-making processes, assessing climate risks, and identifying opportunities for climate action within their sector.
- Resource generation and mobilization: Sectoral departments are responsible for mobilizing financial and other resources to implement climate policies and programs in their sectors. They work towards securing funding from various sources, such as national budgets, international climate finance mechanisms, public-private partnerships, and grants.
- Strategic coordination, collaboration, and partnership: Sectoral departments collaborate with other government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities, and international partners to foster coordination and partnership for effective climate action. This involves sharing knowledge and best practices, coordinating efforts to achieve common goals, and leveraging expertise and resources from different stakeholders.
- Research, innovation, and knowledge management: Sectoral departments engage in research and innovation to develop new technologies, practices, and approaches that support climate change mitigation and adaptation within their sectors. They also facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building, and awareness-raising activities to promote best practices and ensure the dissemination of climate-related information.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and quality assurance: Sectoral departments establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track the progress of climate policies, programs, and projects within their sectors. They assess the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of climate actions and use the findings to improve implementation strategies and ensure quality assurance.

(c) Province Committee:

- Provincial Advocacy and Diplomacy: The committee can engage in advocacy efforts to raise awareness about climate change and its impacts at the provincial level. They can also engage in diplomatic efforts to promote climate resilience and sustainable development in

the province. Ensure programmes, projects, and operations are aligned with climate and environment policy and strategy: The committee can play a role in mainstreaming climate considerations into the programs, projects, and operations of the Red Cross at the provincial level. This can include integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into disaster risk reduction activities, emergency response planning, and community resilience initiatives.

- Resource Generation and Mobilization at province level: The committee can be involved in resource mobilization efforts to support climate-related programs and projects at the provincial level. This may include seeking funding from provincial government agencies, donors, and other sources to finance climate resilience initiatives.
- Coordination, collaboration, and partnership with Provincial Stakeholders: The committee can foster coordination, collaboration, and partnerships with various provincial stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and community-based organizations. This can help facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building, and joint actions to address climate change.
- Monitoring, evaluation, and quality assurance: The committee can be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of climate policies, programs, and projects at the provincial level. This can include assessing the effectiveness of interventions, collecting data on climate impacts, and ensuring quality assurance of climate-related activities.
- Bridging and liaison between central and district committees: The provincial committee can serve as a bridge and liaison between the NHQS and district-chapter committees within the province. They can facilitate communication, information sharing, and coordination between different levels of the organization to ensure effective implementation of climate policies and strategies.

District Chapters

- Implementation of Programmes and Projects: The district chapter should actively work towards implementing various climate and environment related programs, projects, and interventions at the local level. This may involve initiatives related to disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation, and mitigation measures.
- Coordination with Government Authorities and Local Stakeholders: The district chapter should establish effective coordination channels with government authorities, local stakeholders, and community organizations.
- Alignment with Climate and Environment Policy and Strategy: The district chapter should ensure that its programs, projects, and operations are aligned with climate and environment policies and strategies at the provincial or national level. This includes mainstreaming climate considerations and integrating them into the chapter's activities and decision-making processes. Resource Generation and Mobilization at Province Level: The district chapter should actively engage in resource generation and mobilization.
- Resource Generation and Mobilization at Province Level: The district chapter should actively engage in resource generation and mobilization efforts at the province level. This may involve fundraising activities, seeking grants, partnering with relevant organizations, and advocating for financial support for climate-related initiatives.
- Coordination, Collaboration, and Partnership with District Stakeholders: The district chapter should foster coordination, collaboration, and partnership with various stakeholders at the district level. This can include government agencies, non-governmental organizations, community groups, and other relevant entities. By working together, the district chapter can enhance the effectiveness of climate initiatives and promote synergy

among stakeholders.
- Monitoring, Evaluation, and Quality Assurance: The district chapter should establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the outcomes and impacts of climate-related programs and projects. This includes setting up performance indicators, conducting regular assessments, and ensuring quality assurance in program implementation.
- Bridging and Liaison Between Provincial and Local Chapters: The district chapter should act as a bridge between the provincial and sub chapters of the NRCS. This involves facilitating communication, sharing best practices, and coordinating efforts between different levels of the organization to maximize the impact of climate-related activities.

Sub-chapters

Sub-chapters are responsible for implementing climate policies and strategies at the local level. They work towards translating overarching climate goals and targets into actionable steps that are relevant and effective within their specific context. This involves developing and executing plans, programs, and projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting sustainable practices, and adapting to climate change impacts.

Sub-chapters play a vital role in engaging and mobilizing communities to take part in climate action. They act as intermediaries between the larger climate policy framework and local residents, helping to raise awareness, educate, and empower individuals to contribute to sustainability efforts. Sub-chapters organize outreach programs, workshops, and awareness campaigns to educate the public about climate change, its impacts, and the importance of mitigation and adaptation measures.

Sub-chapters serve as coordinators and facilitators of climate initiatives at the local level. They collaborate with various stakeholders, including local governments, businesses, nonprofits, and community groups, to align efforts, share resources, and promote synergy among different actors. By fostering collaboration and coordination, sub-chapters ensure a cohesive and integrated approach to climate action within their specific geographic area.

Junior/Youth Red Cross

Junior and youth circles can actively participate in the implementation of climate policies and frameworks. This can include carrying out sustainability projects, organizing events, and engaging in activities that promote environmental conservation. By taking practical steps to reduce their own carbon footprints and encouraging others to do the same, young individuals can contribute to the overall implementation of climate policies on a grassroots level. Junior and youth circles can engage in research and innovation to develop new solutions and technologies for addressing climate change. They can conduct studies, analyze data, and propose innovative ideas to mitigate the impacts of climate change and promote sustainable practices.

Junior and youth circles are often at the forefront of raising awareness about climate change and its implications. They can organize educational campaigns, workshops, and seminars to inform their peers and the wider community about the urgency of climate action. By leveraging social media platforms and other communication channels, young individuals can amplify their message and mobilize support for climate policies and frameworks.

IFRC, ICRC, PNS and Reference Centers:

The IFRC and its members, ICRC and Reference Centers will provide technical and financial support to the NRCS' to achieve its commitments and policies on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and environment sustainability. IFRC and its membership together with RCRC Climate Center will support NRCS in implementing their strategic climate and environmental action through related research, innovation, and policy advocacy. IFRC will support NRCS to explore several funding opportunities including climate financing for designing and implementing locally led climate actions, Nature based solutions and climate smart DRR.

Strategic monitoring, reporting, and evaluation

The existing Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting system (PMER) of the NRCS will be integrated with all climate change and environmental risk reduction/ resilience building interventions as a standard practice across NRCS. NRCS will adhere to Nepal Government's climate change policy 2019 along with the National Adaptation Plan 2022, Nationally Determined Contribution 2021, and environmental guidelines on resilience building. Similarly, IFRC's outcomes of climate change and environmental framework will be referred to while developing key performance indicators for sector specific climate and environment action plans.