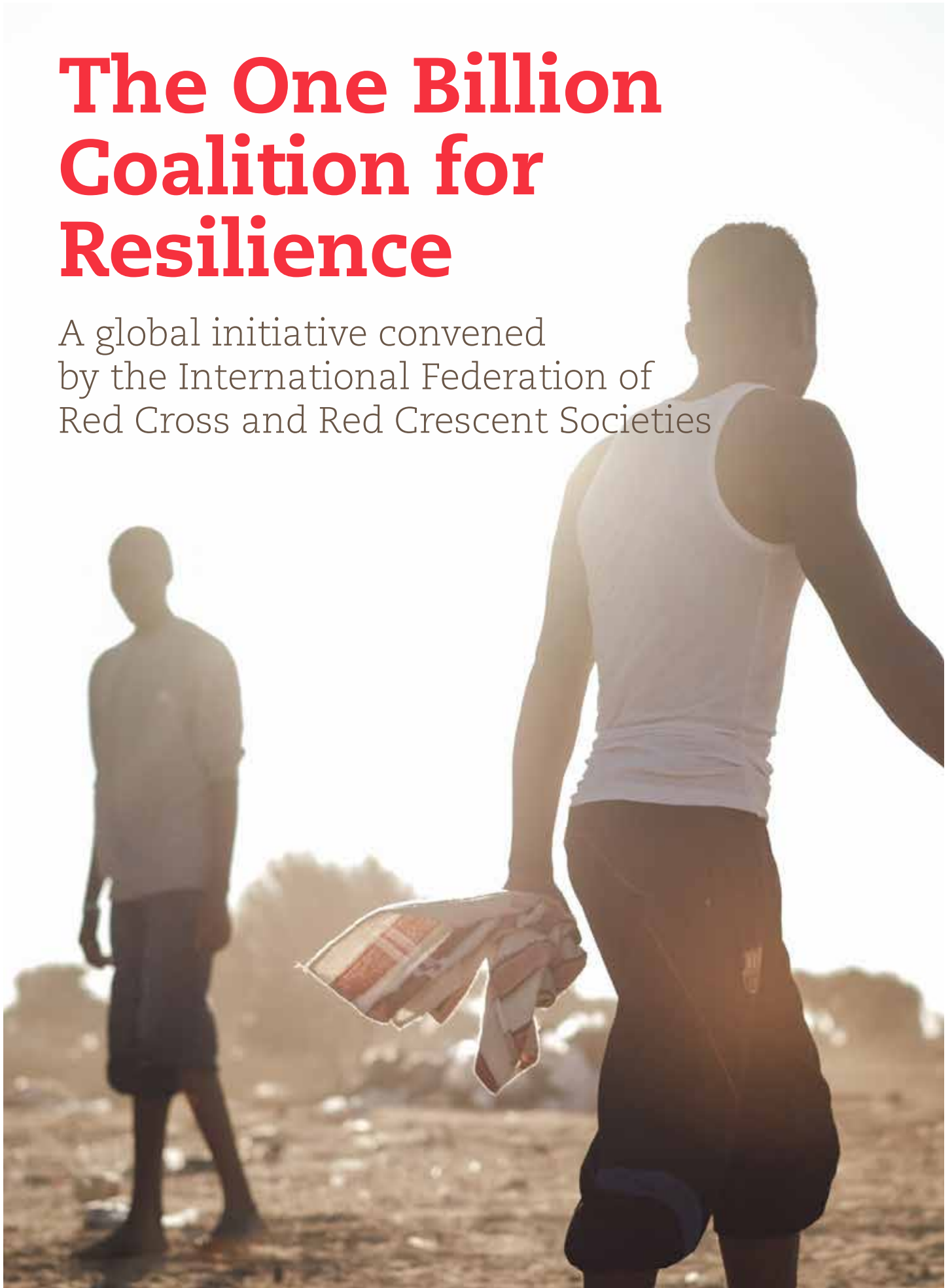


The One Billion Coalition for Resilience

A global initiative convened by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies



WHY A GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON COMMUNITY RESILIENCE?

The IFRC is convening the One Billion Coalition for Resilience because we want to:

- Reduce the impact of disasters affecting more than 100 million people, destroying lives and livelihoods, and costing some 140 billion US dollars every year. Evidence shows that investing in disaster risk reduction and preparedness saves lives and money.
- Reduce the vulnerabilities that compromise the dignity, wellbeing and life opportunities of hundreds of millions of people of all ages and on all continents. Diseases and lack of access to life-sustaining services and opportunities can be overcome if people and decision-makers can develop practical solutions in their respective contexts.
- Promote local organizations – who know best how to respond to the needs in their communities and contexts – ensuring they are treated as primary and equal partners in today’s humanitarian systems. There will be no sustainable agenda without greater investment and focus on actions owned, led and carried out by individuals and communities themselves to bring about lasting change in their communities.
- Transform the humanitarian system seeking ever-greater resources every year to save more lives. If our work with communities is designed to make them stronger and better able to withstand the shocks they face, then we should expect their demand for our services to steadily decline.
- Enable like-minded organizations and solution-providers to avoid working in fragmented and disjointed ways. From local to global, partners will grow stronger if they agree to share ambitions, risks, resources, capabilities, successes and accountability.

WHAT IS THE ONE BILLION COALITION FOR RESILIENCE?

By 2025, at least one billion people around the world will have taken active steps towards strengthening their resilience¹.

This is our vision for the One Billion Coalition – a world where all people are safer, healthier and more prosperous, even in the face of adversity. A Coalition of Coalitions that provides individuals and communities worldwide with the commitment, resources and confidence to understand their risks and take action to reduce their vulnerability. The One Billion Coalition is based on the belief that, given the right support, vulnerable groups everywhere will work together and care for their own and for others. Ours is a conviction that what is needed to initiate change is a wider supportive network of committed volunteers and organizations, Governments, businesses, civil society groups and others.

*We are the One Billion Coalition
for Resilience.*

You are the One Billion Coalition for Resilience.

The One Billion Coalition for Resilience is a transformative initiative that will save and change the lives of vulnerable people around the world. The Coalition will allow all participants to demonstrate leadership, save and change lives, and facilitate the disaster risk reduction and development commitments set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Through the Coalition, the IFRC and its partners will help individuals, households and communities around the world to improve their understanding of risk and take action to strengthen their safety, health, and well-being.

HOW DOES IT LOOK ON THE GROUND?

The key to realizing the Coalition is to mobilize a broad partnership of actors from local to global, committed to the common cause of building resilience at the individual or community level. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are well placed, with others, to play a catalysing role in bringing together national and local coalitions under the One Billion Coalition for Resilience umbrella. Partners in each national coalition will shape the initiative to suit their local circumstances, by implementing practical initiatives to kick-start activities in each country.

Practical initiatives at country level could include:

Map needs and vulnerabilities

- **Support communities to map out** key areas of risk and vulnerability across your country
- **Encourage** people to identify local hazards and risks that need to be addressed by Governments at all levels, as well as by the community itself.

Build national and local coalitions

- **Identify** opportunities and partners who will significantly contribute to community resilience, e.g. implementing or improving community first aid and disaster preparedness activities, early warning systems, access to food, water and sanitation, community health, social inclusion for the most vulnerable people, anti-stigma and anti-violence campaigns, etc.
- **Engage** extensively with your National Red Cross and Red Crescent Society and its branches, as well as the wider membership and volunteers, to incentivize and motivate local action and expand the reach of the Coalition
- **Link** local coalitions, initiatives, and campaigns to the global Coalition, and provide case studies of best practice and local engagement to share on a global engagement platform connecting all participants
- **Link** to and build on existing initiatives such as [Making Cities Resilient](#) or [100 Resilient Cities](#).

Increase advocacy

- **Persuade** members of parliament, Ministers, and public servants to increase their focus on public works and other expenditure to build community resilience through sustainable development and disaster risk reduction initiatives
- **Launch** campaigns through digital and traditional media to raise awareness around community challenges that cannot be addressed locally, using consistent and action-based messages highlighting local realities.

Monitor and evaluate

- Develop a universal **community resilience index** that identifies the risks and vulnerabilities that people face, alongside measurable ways to reduce these risks
- **Establish** additional indicators and a monitoring tool enabling partners and coalition members to track progress and report results triggered by and realized through the Coalition.

1. *Resilience: The ability of individuals, communities, organizations or countries exposed to disasters, crises and underlying vulnerabilities to anticipate, prepare for, reduce the impact of, cope with and recover from the effects of shocks and stresses without compromising their long term prospects—IFRC Framework for Community Resilience*

HOW CAN WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

The One Billion Coalition for Resilience is an engagement initiative that invites everyone – individuals, communities, civil society groups, Governments, academia, and businesses – to be agents of change to create a more resilient world.

The Coalition is an opportunity to build on and strengthen existing networks and initiatives for community resilience. The IFRC and other global partners will support participation in building national and local coalitions, and drive resilience-building activities through the following mechanisms:

A call to action that inspires and bring together partners in each country to:

- **Individuals:** Take action to increase their own resilience and the resilience of their networks and neighbourhoods
- **Communities:** Take action to increase the resilience of their members
- **Civil society and non-governmental organizations:** Take action to build greater community resilience via synergies and pooling of resources among Coalition partners
- **Businesses and corporate entities:** Take action to partner, invest, share knowledge and expertise to achieve community resilience
- **Research bodies:** Take action to build and share knowledge and expertise based on community participatory processes
- **Governments:** Take action to increase investment in disaster risk reduction and to prioritize policies and legislation that strengthen national, and regional capacity, improving resilience outcomes for citizens and their communities.

A responsive and demand-based global engagement platform, which enables:

- People to take up our call to action, pledge, and share the vision
- Individuals and communities to assess their risks, access enabling services and develop solutions
- Individuals to access training and gain skills, as well as register for volunteering opportunities in their neighbourhood or for a particular vulnerable group
- Access to improved monitoring and tracking, community vulnerability assessment, ideas, and resources.

WHAT DOES THE ONE BILLION COALITION FOR RESILIENCE OFFER COALITION MEMBERS?

- **A dynamic vehicle to build community and business engagement and to inspire individuals of all ages to engage in self-directed resilience-building actions:** the Coalition seeks to promote simple-to-scale actions, valuing individual action through to global transformation. The Coalition will encourage people to take action individually and collectively to reduce the risks that affect them and their communities.
- **Strengthened advocacy to promote investment in prevention and mitigation:** the Coalition brings together Governments, civil society and non-traditional partners, including the business community and other leaders and influencers, in coordinated initiatives and advocacy for resilience action at all levels. This will promote and enable increased public and private investment in risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and emergency preparedness and mitigation to enhance community resilience.
- **Strengthened positioning as a resilience-building organization:** The Coalition positions its members as facilitators of partnership models that promote collaboration to address gaps, and ensure maximum impact in communities to build resilience. No organization is fully mandated or equipped to meet every need in every community – instead, the Coalition allows organizations to work with wider sets of partners to undertake rigorous risk and vulnerability assessment, find synergies, and provide services and resources more effectively.
- **Enhanced resource and knowledge sharing:** The Coalition brings opportunities to build the capacity of your staff and volunteers, and to share this with partners, through learning platforms, and streamlined resource and knowledge sharing. Within the Coalition, knowledge and resource sharing is a two way street. Individuals and communities will be enabled to share their needs, knowledge and expertise with partners and participants, ensuring truly relevant and tailored action to build resilience.

Where can I find other resources?

The IFRC has established a web page for the One Billion Coalition at: www.ifrc.org/one-billion-coalition

There you will find initiative highlights and a growing range of resource documents. Please send your feedback or questions to: onebillioncoalition@ifrc.org

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