



# LOCAL ACTION GLOBAL REACH

Workshop: Applying Lessons Learned from COVID-19 Research and Development to Future Epidemics  
[Session 2] Equitable Scientific Collaborations, Partnerships, and Coordination on the Global Scale  
Hosted by: National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

## HOW TO PAY THE COVID-19 REMAINING DEBT

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# The C19 pandemic: a catalyst for transformation

## 3 IFRC Strategic Goals

People anticipate, respond to, and quickly recover from crisis

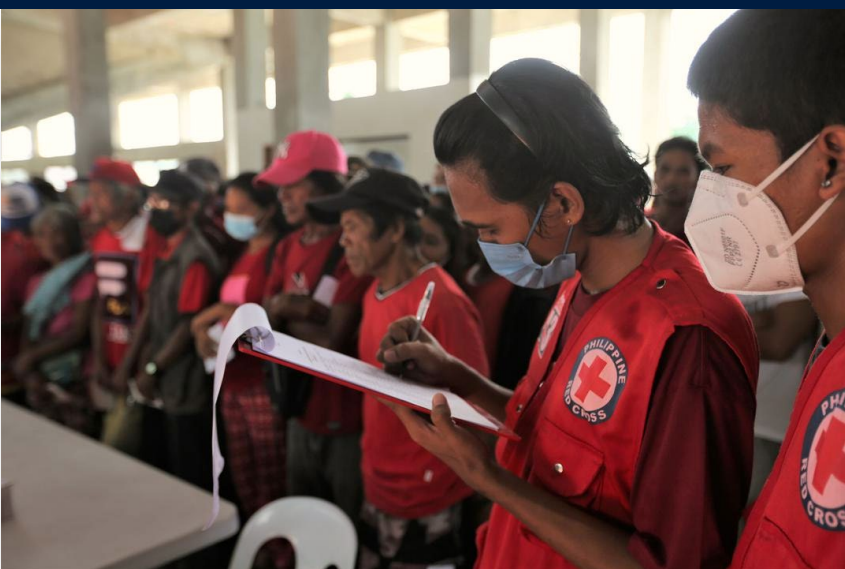
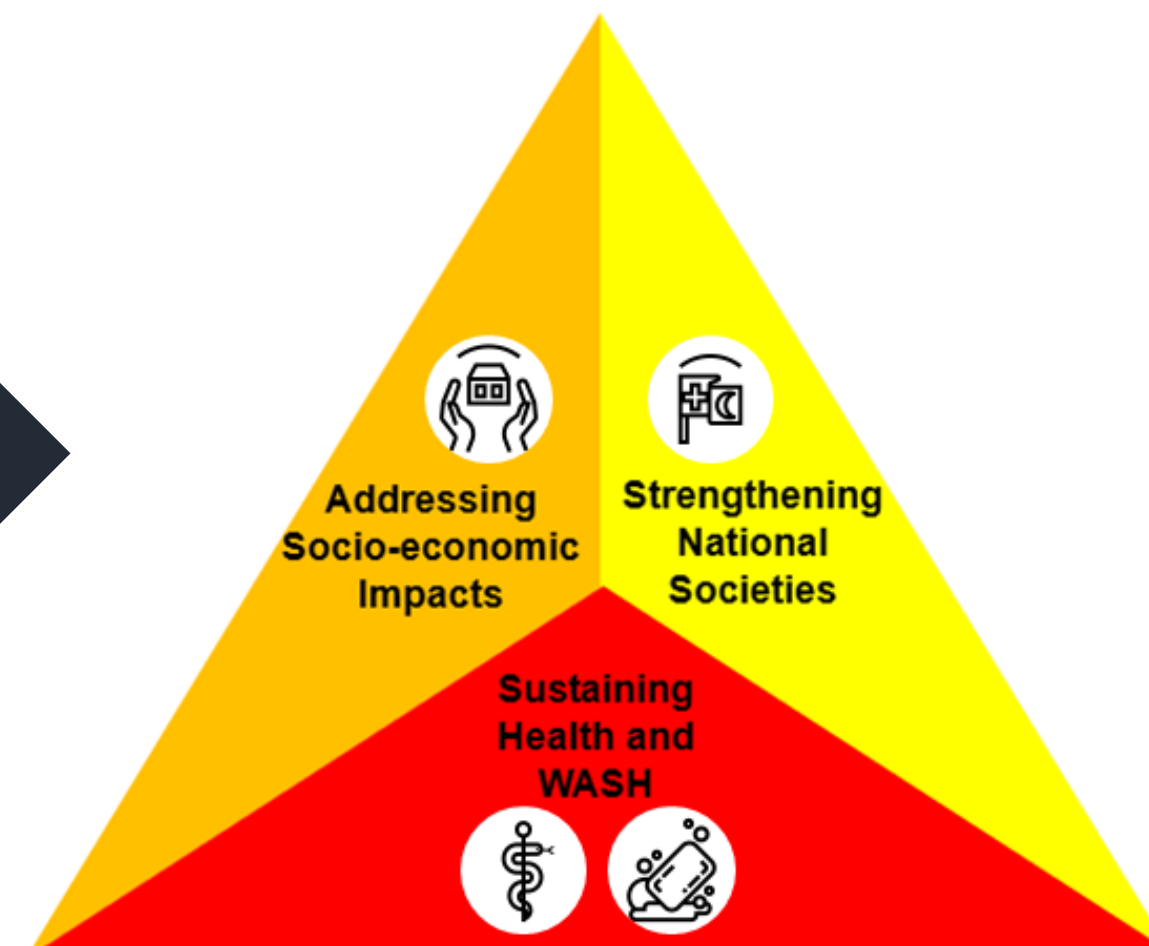
People lead safe, healthy and dignified lives and have opportunities to thrive

People mobilize for inclusive and peaceful communities

## 3 Operational priorities of the IFRC – Wide C19 Emergency Appeal

**January 2020**  
We launched the  
**COVID-19 Emergency Appeal of CHF 2.8 billion IFRC-wide**

(together with our network of 192 National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies)



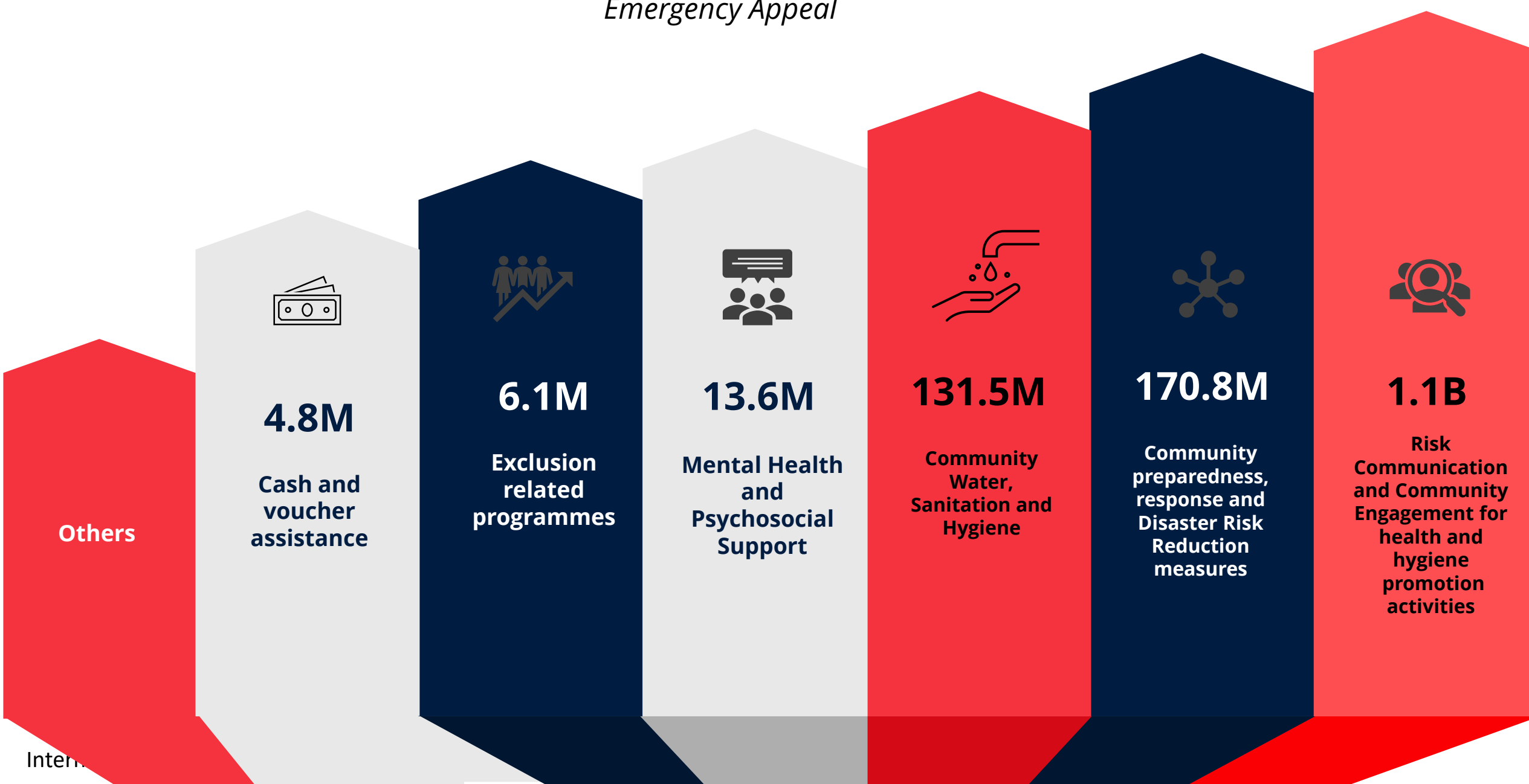




# The C19 pandemic: a catalyst for transformation

Opportunities in the middle of difficulties: reaching the last-mile communities through our responses to the pandemic.

*Some numbers of people reached through our C19  
Emergency Appeal*



- As organization and as society, indeed we **scaled and speed up** our processes and actions, but was it something **systemic**?
- Were we prepared for these **changes in our systems and behaviours**?
- What happens when the **absorption capacity** of the institutions, the communities, the partners, the Governments, is not enough and not well coordinated?
- **Shadowing effect** of COVID-19 with other humanitarian needs and other humanitarian crises shadowing COVID-19.

# Lessons learnt during the pandemic

## Behavioral level



- **Solidary and voluntary behavior.**
- **Protecting the ones who protect: Duty of care and “business” continuity** for staff, volunteers and essential workers of our communities.
- **Digital transformation** as a way to be closer, to be more innovative in the way we interact and the way we reach more people.
- **The human suffering cannot be politicized.**

## Systems level



- Global investment in digitalization with high costs and not necessarily **sustainable**.
- Mechanisms and private sector controlling aspects such as technology, pharmaceuticals, among others had an enormous demand but wasn't necessarily **in balance with the needs of excluded communities**.
- **C19 Vaccination mechanisms** faced many challenges and inequities in terms of coordination, democratization of resources, effectivity in the processes, not including **neutral and local stakeholders in the processes**.

## Thematic level



- Importance of **livelihoods** as a base for communities to recover from the pandemic in the long term.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support** as an imminent need to strengthen and support in every stage of the pandemic and beyond it.
- Strengthening health **systems capacity** and the **trust of the communities** is an investment for the long term.
- **Preventive and hygiene promotion** practices are going to remain in our societies in a more permanent way.
- Measures such as **testing, tracing, surveillance** were not enough.
- Need to invest in **preparedness for the next pandemics and global crises**.

# Initial humanitarian debts



*Which other humanitarian debts do we need to pay together?*





**Thank you!**

***If not us, then who?  
If not now, then when?  
And if not with love, then how?***