

# The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is scaling up and scaling deeper to meet with the extensive unmet mental health and psychosocial needs of people around the world

A new MHPSS policy was adopted by 192 National Red cross Red Crescent societies in December 2019

The resolution “Addressing Mental Health and and Psychosocial Needs of people affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies”. was adopted by 196 states.



How to effectively use the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement  
Policy and International Conference resolution  
on addressing mental health and psychosocial needs

**Power of humanity**  
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT STATUTORY MEETINGS  
4-12 December 2019, Geneva



# Movement policy on addressing mental health and psychosocial needs

## Who should use it?

*Applies to all National Societies, the IFRC and the ICRC*

*Recognises the respective and complementary capacities and mandates of National Societies, the IFRC and the ICRC and the variety of different activities carried out **in all contexts***

## What is the purpose?

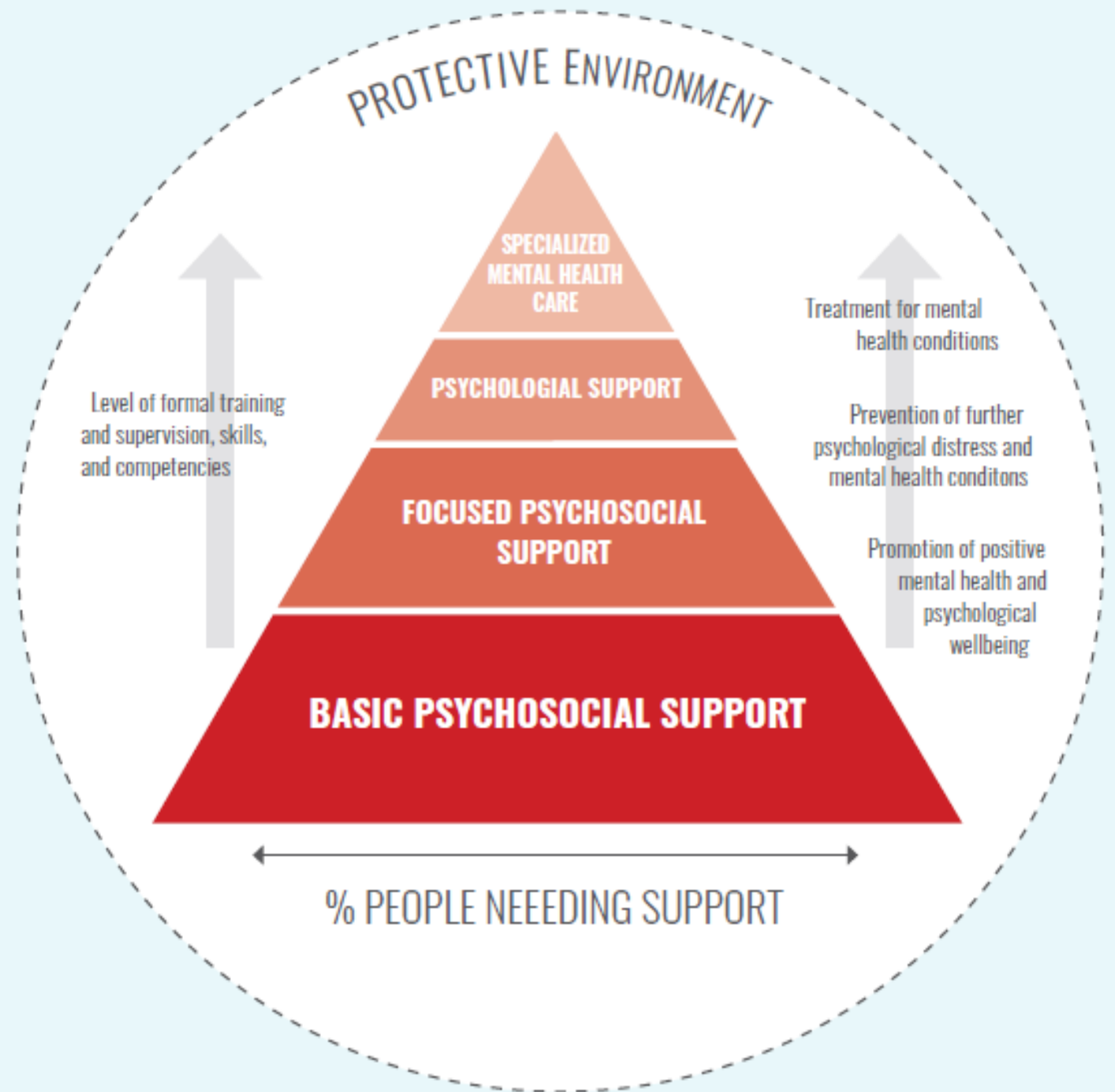
*To contribute to an enhanced Movement response to mental health and psychosocial needs*

*To ensure quality and provides overall guidance on how to build a more harmonized, contextually appropriate and holistic response*

# Eight policy statements

1. Ensure **impartial access** to mental health and psychosocial support and prioritize **prevention and early response**
2. Ensure **comprehensive and integrated support and care** for people with mental health and psychosocial needs
3. Recognize the **resilience, participation and diversity of people** in all mental health and psychosocial activities
4. Ensure **protection of safety, dignity and rights**
5. Address **stigma, exclusion and discrimination**
6. Implement and contribute to the development of interventions based on mental health and psychosocial support **standards and practices** that are internationally recognized and informed by evidence
7. Protect the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of **staff and volunteers**.
8. Develop mental health and psychosocial support **capacity**

# The Movement's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support framework



# 33rd International Conference resolution 2

“Addressing mental health and psychosocial need of people affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies”

## Who should use it?

*National Societies, the IFRC, the ICRC **and States***

## What is the purpose?

- *Recognizes the urgency to increase efforts to respond to the mental health and psychosocial needs of people affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies by means of prevention, promotion, protection and assistance*
- *Identifies concrete actions to be taken by the National Societies, the IFRC, the ICRC and States*

## 33rd International Conference resolution 2

- Ensure **early and sustained access** to mental health and psychosocial support for emergency affected populations
- Increase **local and community-based action** and the cooperation between National Societies and States
- Ensure that responses are **comprehensive** and include psychosocial, psychological and specialized mental health care
- **Integrate** mental health and psychosocial support into all activities addressing humanitarian needs such as health care, education and protection
- Strengthen the mental health and psychosocial **workforce**, including volunteers
- Address **stigma**, exclusion and discrimination
- Protect the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of **staff and volunteers**