QRCS provides socioeconomic support for COVID-19 victims in Montenegro

January 10th, 2021 — Doha: Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) has concluded a project to address the socioeconomic consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak in Montenegro, in order to reduce the impact on the wellbeing of the affected communities.

With a total $20,000 funding from QRCS, the Red Cross of Montenegro was able to secure protective supplies for those who cannot afford to purchase such products.

The COVID-19 situation in Montenegro is very challenging, with increasing numbers of infected and hospitalized persons. Given the overall population of that small European country, the current figures in Montenegro are among the worst in the region.

The Red Cross of Montenegro procured basic relief items, such as hygiene kits, as the number of socially vulnerable people is constantly increasing. In addition to people who were vulnerable before, now there are new categories of people who need support since they lost their jobs.

The partner National Society reached out to these people through its local branches and base of volunteers. Thanks to the support from QRCS, they procured 1,500 hygiene kits across the country.

Special focus was put on the inmates of social care centers and prone older persons. In addition to the hygiene items and sanitizers, food parcels were distributed to some families.
This joint effort is estimated to have helped around 4,800 persons. The purchase was conducted through a public tender, to ensure maximum integrity and transparency.

This project is part of QRCS’s initiative to back the fellow National Societies in 22 countries across six continents, aimed at protecting 320,000 persons against the virus, with a total budget of QR 2,236,827.

These countries are: Palestine, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Laos, Vanuatu, Ethiopia, Chad, Senegal, Mauritania, Ivory Coast, Mali, Sierra Leone, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Venezuela, El Salvador, Peru, and Panama.

The list of activities conducted by QRCS in support of those countries includes provision of equipment and supplies for health facilities, provision of medicines and medical supplies, protection for medical professionals and volunteers, provision of food and shelter for families worst affected by loss of income, and provision of protective supplies (masks, gloves, sanitizers, etc.).

##End of Text##

About Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS)

Established in 1978, Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) is a humanitarian volunteering organization that aims to assist and empower vulnerable individuals and communities without partiality or discrimination. QRCS is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which consists of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and 191 National Societies. QRCS is also a member of several GCC, Arab, and Islamic organizations, such as the Islamic Committee of International Crescent and the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO). In this legally recognized capacity, QRCS has access to disaster and conflict zones, thus serving
as an auxiliary to the State of Qatar in its humanitarian efforts — a role that distinguishes it from other local charities and NGOs.

QRCS operates both locally and internationally and has ongoing international relief and development projects in a number of countries throughout the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Europe. QRCS's humanitarian actions include providing support in disaster preparedness, disaster response, risk reduction, and disaster recovery. To mitigate the impact of disasters and improve the livelihoods of affected populations, QRCS provides medical services, healthcare, and social development to local communities. It is also active at the humanitarian advocacy front. With the help of a vast network of trained, committed staff and volunteers, QRCS aspires to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

QRCS works under the umbrella of the seven international humanitarian principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.