

TOGO

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement **CHF 2.5M**

Appeal number **MAATG002**

In support of the Togolese Red Cross



311

National Society branches



89

National Society staff



65,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



50,000

Climate and environment



25,000

Disasters and crises



500,000

Health and wellbeing



20,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multiyear focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk reduction
- Community health
 - Maternal health
 - Climate adaptation

Capacity development

- Partnerships and resource mobilization
 - Risk management
 - Digital transformation
 - Financial sustainability
- Volunteer development and youth action

Key country data

Population **8.5M**

Long-term Climate Risk Index **161**

Human Development Index rank **162**

Population below poverty level **55.1%**

Hazards



Floods



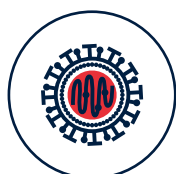
Drought



Storms



Wildfires



Disease outbreaks



Climate change

Funding requirements

Total 2.5M CHF

Through the IFRC

1.6M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

→ **912,000** CHF

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

400,000 CHF
Climate and environment

250,000 CHF
Disasters and crises

650,000 CHF
Health and wellbeing

75,000 CHF
Values, power and inclusion

200,000 CHF
Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

French Red Cross

German Red Cross

Italian Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross



NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The Togolese Red Cross was officially founded in 1959. As an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, it retains the autonomy that enables it to act in all circumstances in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, their additional protocols, and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The National Society was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1961.

The Togolese Red Cross has a network of 65,000 staff and volunteers, the largest in Togo. It is committed to the humanitarian cause throughout the national territory, and is present in 311 local sections (branches). At the institutional level, it is a decentralized organization with fairly autonomous local structures. Its national management committee was elected in June 2022 for a period of five years. In terms of governance, there are five regional committees whose responsibilities include implementing policies, providing guidance, and supervising the National Society's accountability.

The Togolese Red Cross's vision is to be a well-functioning National Society, to improve the living conditions of vulnerable people in an equitable and sustainable manner, to protect human dignity and promote peace among Togo's population. Its strategic plan has four main objectives:

- To build a stronger National Society that functions well at all levels
- To promote the identity of the Movement, human rights, social cohesion and a culture of peace
- To strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable communities and individuals in Togo
- To strengthen disaster preparedness

The National Society currently has 89 members of staff working at the headquarters and in the five regional coordinating offices. They work together to carry out humanitarian activities relating to disaster relief and management, the impacts of climate change, food insecurity and environmental protection. The National Society also works in the areas of health and care, access to safe drinking water, and adequate sanitation and hygiene services. It aims to strengthen the social status of specific vulnerable groups, promote gender equality, and prevent and respond to gender-based violence. The National Society also works to promote humanitarian values and human rights, improve its volunteer management systems and encourage youth leadership, while building its capacities and working on its organizational development.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

Joint situational analysis

Togo is located on the west coast of Africa and is bordered by Ghana, Benin and Burkina Faso. It has a population of about 8.5 million people, 42.2 per cent of whom live in urban areas. It is expected that urbanization will continue, and that the proportion of people living in towns and cities will increase to 48.6 per cent by 2030, and 60.6 per cent by 2050.

The ruling Union Pour la République (UNIR) Party has dominated Togo's political landscape for several years. The presidential elections on 22 February 2020 returned Faure Gnassingbé to power for a fourth five-year term. On 28 September 2020, Victoire Tomégah-Dogbé was appointed Prime Minister – the first woman to hold this office.

Togo is one of the world's top five producers of phosphates, which are used in fertilizer manufacturing. The country's economy and GDP have improved in recent years, although poverty levels are not significantly declining – especially in the agricultural sector which employs most of the workforce. There is widespread poverty across the country, and nearly 81.2 per cent of people in rural areas live below the global poverty line. This is likely to be exacerbated by rising inflation, which is being driven by global increases in food and oil prices.

Child welfare is a major concern in Togo, as half the people living in poverty are under the age of 18. Child marriage is also a significant problem – approximately 22 per cent of girls are married before the age of 18.

Recent outbreaks of violence have been attributed to non-state armed groups in the Savanes region, which borders Benin, Burkina Faso and Ghana. As a result of the attacks, there have been population movements within the area, and this may affect seasonal agricultural production.

Togo is highly vulnerable to the natural hazards of flooding, droughts, high winds, storms, wildfires, coastal erosion and disease epidemics. The country experiences recurring flooding and droughts, which have a number of challenging socio-economic impacts on the population, the environment and the economy.

Strategic priorities

Climate and environment

Togo is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, due to a combination of geographic, political, and social factors. It has a low coastal plain with marshes and lagoons, hills in the north and a southern plateau. The movements of the tropical rain belt, which oscillates between the northern and southern tropics throughout the year, influence Togo's rainfall seasons. In the dry northern regions of the country there are typically south-westerly winds, while the weather in the south is wetter and more humid. The changing movements and intensity of the inter-tropical convergence zone, and variations in the timing and intensity of the West African Monsoon, mean that seasonal rainfall in Togo and across the entire region varies from year to year.

Climate change is likely to increase Togo's vulnerability to weather-related hazards. In the years to come, average temperatures across the country are expected to increase, and rainfall patterns will change. Sea level rises will threaten coastal settlements, with coastal erosion and the salinization of fresh water sources. This is highly concerning because 90 per cent of the country's industrial units are located in coastal areas, so climate-related damage may result in the loss of goods and services. There is widespread poverty in Togo, and poor households and communities do not have the capacity to mitigate the risks of climate change. Furthermore, people's reliance on rain-fed agriculture and livestock makes them highly vulnerable to climate-related shocks.

The river system in Togo is dominated by the Mono River and the Oti River. The country experiences flooding nearly every year, especially in the Volta and Mono Basins, because of heavy rainfall during the winter months. The floods cause significant damage to infrastructure such as roads, bridges and culverts, and the destruction of agricultural crops and livelihoods.

There are several major environmental challenges in Togo. Logging, for the purposes of manufacturing charcoal from trees, is causing deforestation. There are also issues of plastic waste pollution, the environmental

impact of rapid urbanization, and damage being done to areas adjacent to rivers.

The Government of Togo plans to achieve 25 per cent forest cover by 2025 and plant a billion trees by 2030.

Main actions and areas of support

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the [IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society plans to work on reducing the current and future humanitarian impacts of climate change and environmental crises. Through its programming, it will support communities to mitigate, adapt to and thrive in the face of these challenges. Its work will include caring for and planting trees, as part of the IFRC Pan-African initiative on Tree Planting and Care, and in support of governmental efforts.

In 2023, the National Society plans to:

- Build the capacities of staff and volunteers on issues relating to climate change, and develop nature-based solutions to address the issues
- Conduct community education and sensitization on the issues, and implement activities on climate change adaptation and climate risk reduction in schools

- Support communities to participate in anti-erosion and natural resource protection work
- Develop a strategy for the implementation of [forecast-based action](#) approaches in the National Society's disaster management processes
- Engage in tree planting and care activities with volunteers, schools and communities, together with other relevant stakeholders

Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page [Togo](#)

Disasters and crises caused by natural hazards happen nearly every year in Togo. The country's geographical location in the inter-tropical convergence zone exposes it to storms and cyclones, with winds up to 115km/hour, especially in the Plateaux, Central, Kara and Savanes regions. These strong winds often cause the uprooting of trees and the destruction of roofs, homes, classrooms, farm buildings and health centres.

Serious flooding has occurred in Togo in 1995, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017 and 2020, causing significant damage to bridges, culverts, concessions, fields and property. More recently, there was heavy rainfall in the northern Savanes region, starting in mid-October 2022, causing rivers to overflow and flooding in some areas. Three of the seven prefectures in the Savanes region, Oti, Oti-Sud and Kpendjal, were seriously affected by the flooding.

The heavy rains flowed into the Mono River, causing an exponential rise in water levels, and the river burst its banks. At the same time, there was a dramatic spike in the water level at the Nangbéto Dam in the Maritime region. The dam's capacity had already been exceeded when the weather forecast predicted more intense rainfall over the following days, so officials were compelled to release water to avoid further damage and the serious risk of dam failure. This incident increased water levels in various streams across the region, especially in the Yoto, Bas-Mono and Lacs prefectures. The excess water flooded into communities and destroyed several hectares of farm crops, including rice, maize, soya and beans. The water also flooded roads and caused serious damage, destroying huts, flooding schools and killing livestock.

On 25 October 2022, Togo's National Disaster Prevention Agency released information collected in the Savanes and Maritime regions, showing that more than 18,600 people had been affected by the flooding. The National Civil Protection Agency and the Togolese Red Cross

carried out inventories and reported that the floods had caused extensive damage and left many people in a vulnerable situation, particularly in the Maritime region where 90 per cent of those affected live.

Other emergencies in Togo are caused by fires, which occur every year during the dry season. The main causes are human activities, for example slash-and-burn agricultural methods and certain hunting practices. Togo is also exposed to other risks and threats such as transportation accidents (road, river, rail and air), industrial incidents, the transportation of hazardous materials and violent attacks.

The INFORM risk profile ranks Togo at 7.7 in terms of its lack of coping capacity. In 2019, at the request of the Government, the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) global partnership facilitated a diagnosis of Togo's national and local capacities for disaster risk reduction, including response preparedness. The Togolese Red Cross took part in the diagnosis, which looked into the sectors of agriculture, food security, nutrition, infrastructure, land use planning and health, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The conclusions and recommendations of the report have informed the development of Togo's national disaster risk reduction strategy, which includes gender equity and the empowerment of women as a key strategy to reduce the population's vulnerability to disasters and crises.

Main actions and areas of support

The Togolese Red Cross responds to disasters affecting the country, in line with its auxiliary role. It is currently responding to the flooding that started in October 2022, with support from an IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [allocation](#).

In 2023, with support from the IFRC network, the Togolese Red Cross will work to respond to shocks and improve risk reduction and community resilience. This includes [early warning](#), [early action](#) and anticipation to mitigate the risks of the many hazards that affect the lives, livelihoods, homes and living conditions of vulnerable communities and the most disadvantaged and hard-to-reach people.

In 2023, the National Society plans to:

- Maintain community-based flood early warning systems
- Train its staff in early warning and early action, including impact-based forecasting, to support anticipation and resilience building

- Develop forecast-based financing applications for floods or other hazards in early action responses
- Support 50 communities with carrying out risk maps and enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments (EVCA), to enable disaster risk-informed planning and implementation, including the establishment of 3D risk maps and risk sheets
- Set up 50 emergency committees in new locations
- Train 700 members of emergency committees on the prevention and management of emergencies and unusual events, and the community engagement and accountability approach
- Implement the community-based disaster reduction management component, as detailed in the National Society Effective Response Preparedness Action Plan
- Ensure that disaster preparedness teams are updated annually
- Identify, set up and equip 20 disaster prevention teams, Mothers' Clubs and Men's Committees in Kara
- Conduct emergency first aid training
- Support local chapters and communities with implementing readiness and stock pre-positioning activities, in line with early action protocols for floods and droughts
- Revise and develop contingency plans linked to early action protocols for floods and droughts – based on risk-mapping, EVCA and available climate information – and simulate them in communities
- Participate in the development and revision of the national disaster response plan

Health and wellbeing

There are social, economic and geographical disparities in access to essential health care in Togo, although the health system is relatively well-equipped and 70.9 per cent of the population have access to facilities. However, pregnant women and newborn babies do not receive appropriate health care during pregnancy, delivery and the first few years after birth. As a result, on average 368 in 100,000 mothers die each year from complications during childbirth, the infant mortality rate in Togo is high (39.8%) and 16 per cent of children under the age of five are underweight. According to the World Bank, one in eight Togolese children will die before their

fifth birthday, and the overall life expectancy at birth is 61.3 years.

Infectious diseases continue to dominate Togo's epidemiological profile. According to the Ministry of Health, the five most common reasons for seeking medical help for children under the age of five are malaria (58.8 per cent), pneumonia or other acute respiratory infections (18.3 per cent), anaemia (5.6 per cent), diarrhoea (5.6 per cent) and injuries (1.9 per cent). Health authorities report high numbers of cases of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS; two per cent of people aged 15–49 are living with HIV/AIDS.

In recent years there have been epidemics of cholera, measles, bacterial meningitis and Lassa fever in Togo. Between 2010 and 2015, there were 3,900 cases of meningitis (and 335 deaths), 647 cases of cholera (24 deaths), 981 cases of measles (one death), and 117 cases of influenza A.

Togo continues to report cases of COVID-19, but an accelerated vaccination campaign is underway. By 10 July 2022, 37,624 cases had been recorded, and 25.5 per cent of people aged 12 and above had received two doses of vaccines. However, according to the Togolese Red Cross, more than half the population are reluctant to be vaccinated because they are concerned about possible dangers or side effects. The Government has relaxed many of its COVID-19 restrictions – curfews have been lifted, land borders are no longer closed and schools and places of worship have reopened their doors. There is still a state of health emergency in force, and monitoring of the implementation of barrier measures is ongoing. The pandemic has severely affected most health sectors, including blood transfusion, and this has exacerbated Togo's blood product shortages.

The country's strategic priorities in the health sector are:

- Accelerating the reduction of maternal, neonatal and child mortality, and strengthening family planning and adolescent health
- Strengthening the fight against communicable diseases
- Improving health security and response to epidemics and other public health emergencies
- Tackling non-communicable diseases and promoting good health
- Strengthening the health system and working towards universal health coverage, including community health



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Main actions and areas of support

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society participates in the Ministry of Health's community health strategy and will focus on the following objectives:

- Ensuring safe and equitable access to health, water, sanitation and adequate living conditions for all, by expanding integrated community-based health care and first aid programmes, and water, sanitation and hygiene programmes to address the unmet needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Investing in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, focusing on local actors, networks and volunteers as community responders who can detect and respond to epidemics and other health risks

A continent-wide initiative between the IFRC and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to invest in building resilient public health security infrastructure on the continent will reinforce the fight against COVID-19. Under the US\$39 million Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative funded by the Mastercard Foundation, the IFRC and African National Societies are building a programme to ensure that 60 per cent of African people vaccinate themselves against COVID-19. The partnership between the Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC will support the procurement and delivery of tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines and hasten economic recovery on the continent. Under this programme, the Togolese Red Cross will deliver critical risk communication and community engagement activities to vulnerable communities in support of COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Other programme partners will provide

procurement and logistics services to a central warehouse (UNICEF), in-country logistics (World Food Programme), managing COVID-19 vaccination centres (Amref Health Africa and GHSS) and safety surveillance (Akros).

In 2023, the National Society plans to:

- Organize 400 volunteers to carry out community surveillance of diseases with epidemic potential in communities at risk
- Raise awareness of vector-borne diseases such as malaria
- Support households with setting up hand washing devices
- Conduct awareness-raising activities on safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation practices
- Organize community dialogues on menstrual hygiene management, through volunteers in schools (School Clubs and Clubs 25)
- Train volunteers in community engagement and accountability, the promotion of essential family practices in the community, and community life
- Support the establishment of birth certificates for children under the age of five
- Train staff and volunteers on psychosocial support, including for people living with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis patients
- Organize two awareness-raising sessions each month on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis

- Train community health workers on [community-based health and first aid](#), in particular community health risk assessments and community-based surveillance modules
- Mobilize donors for blood collection, using an annual plan for voluntary non-remunerated blood donation
- Train volunteers on the early detection of targeted non-communicable diseases (arterial hypertension and diabetes), through the use of technical equipment (electronic blood pressure monitors and glucometers) for taking blood pressure and measuring blood sugar levels
- Identify and train community volunteers on the prevention and screening of eye conditions

Migration and displacement

Togo is a country of both origin and destination for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. According to the Operational Data Portal, there were 10,580 refugees and 856 asylum seekers in Togo in 2022, mainly from Ghana (8,391), Ivory Coast (1,471), the Central African Republic (244), Rwanda (126), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (113) and Mali (78). There are porous borders between Togo and other nations such as Ghana, so some people are smuggled into the country or migrate irregularly by foot or on buses. There is no encampment policy in Togo, so refugees and asylum seekers in urban and rural areas must attempt to integrate themselves within host communities.

Togo suffers from considerable brain drain, where skilled and educated nationals, especially young people, emigrate to work abroad. For example, 60 per cent of Togolese doctors are said to be practicing in France. The 2021 Human Flight and Brain Drain Indicator ranked Togo well above the global average.

Some people migrate within Togo, driven by poverty and searching for financial opportunities. Floods and droughts also cause internal displacement – in 2020 for example, serious flooding in the north of the country in the Savanes and Kara regions destroyed 4,000 buildings and displaced many people.

There are many victims of human trafficking in Togo, especially children. Victims are forced to work in the agricultural sector – for example on coffee, cocoa and cotton farms, in stone and sand quarries, in palm wine production or in the gold mining industry. Other victims of human trafficking are forced into sex work, or trafficked to work as domestic servants, porters or

roadside vendors. In 2019, the Government identified 132 child victims (80 girls and 52 boys) and 87 adults (49 women and 38 men). The traffickers move their victims to Benin, Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast, Ghana and Nigeria by land, and Gabon by ship, where they are exploited. There are also a number of fraudulent labour agencies who send Togolese workers to be employed in Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Main actions and areas of support

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

In 2023, the National Society will focus on ensuring that all people who migrate and are displaced are safe, treated with humanity and dignity, and provided with the assistance and protection they need to thrive in inclusive societies. To achieve this, it will partner with the Ghana Immigration Service and other stakeholders to reduce negative impacts on migrants and internally displaced persons.

In 2023, the National Society plans to:

- Design tailored services such as maternal and child health services, for migrant mothers and children under five
- Raise awareness among migrants of their rights, and connect abused migrants with service providers
- Engage with migrant opinion leaders, displaced people and host communities, to support equitable access to social services and gain a better understanding of migrants' needs

Values, power and inclusion

There is still significant gender inequality in Togo, where only 18.7 per cent of seats in Parliament are held by women (February 2021).

Data shows that 24.8 per cent of women aged 20–24 are married or in a union before the age of 18. The birth rate for young women aged 15–19 in 2016 was 79 per

1,000, compared with 84.4 per 1,000 in 2012. Of women aged 15–49 years in 2018, 12.7 per cent reported that they had experienced physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the 12 months prior. Furthermore, women in this age group are often unable to access their sexual and reproductive rights and health care; only 39.6 per cent had their family planning needs met with modern methods in 2017.

In 2007, [Togo adopted a law](#) that prohibits sexual assault and harassment, exploitation, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. However, women in Togo lack information and education regarding their legal and human rights, so the law does not prevent these practices, and marital rape and domestic violence are still commonplace.

According to the Borgen Project, child labour in Togo is a [serious issue](#), with nearly 30 per cent of all children aged 5–14 in work. The worst forms of child labour include sexual exploitation, agricultural work and forced begging – all of which can lead to human trafficking. Children also work in mines and quarries, in domestic service and garbage scavenging. Since 2017, Togo has made some minor progress in reducing the worst forms of child labour, and there are now more inspectors monitoring workplaces, although the Government has not authorized inspectors to issue fines for labour violations. The inspections are helping to decrease the number of children in work, but progress in this area is very slow.

Main actions and areas of support

The Togolese Red Cross has had a gender strategy in place since 2019, based on the IFRC's [minimum standards on protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies](#). The strategy sets out specific programmes and activities to promote open attitudes to gender equality. The National Society has developed activities aimed at promoting interpersonal skills, including non-violent communication, the prevention of gender-based

violence, and empathetic listening and mediation. The strategy pays particular attention to women's concerns in the development of communities and the promotion of the health rights of mothers and children. It is based on the work of Mothers' Clubs (operating since 1995), which help build community resilience and promote social cohesion within communities.

The National Society will work to ensure that people and communities that are vulnerable and affected by crises are empowered to influence the decisions that affect them, and trust the IFRC to serve their best interests.

The IFRC will support the Togolese Red Cross to build its capacity to reach more local branches; increase awareness and action through the powerful role of youth; engage more with the education community; work to achieve more inclusive workplace dynamics; promote greater diversity; improve the protection of people and their dignity; and encourage people to contribute to resilient and peaceful communities.

In 2023, the IFRC will support the National Society to:

- Develop and roll out an information kit on [community engagement and accountability](#) – for all levels of governance and National Society staff and volunteers
- Enable National Society leaders to integrate minimum community engagement and accountability actions into their strategies, policies, procedures, programmes and operations
- Ensure that community needs assessment activities are integrated into action plans and emergency budgets
- Integrate community engagement and accountability into the National Society's strategic and annual plans, policies, guidelines and operational procedures – so that it becomes a standard approach for all staff and volunteers

Enabling local actors

The Togolese Red Cross is committed to pursue its institutional strengthening, and has carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.

During the recent General Assembly, the National Society adopted policy documents relating to the prevention of fraud and corruption, the code of ethics and conduct, the coordination of Movement actors, and a five-year resource mobilization plan.

Main actions and areas of support

The IFRC network will strive to support the Togolese Red Cross in its development as a trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action, with the capacity to act in the global network. The IFRC network will also ensure that all external assistance in the area of sustainable development aligns with its priorities.

The National Society will strengthen its engagement with partners within and outside the IFRC network, to work collectively on the key challenges facing communities. This will include support in external communications management and the online public presence of the National Society, as well as internal information sharing and knowledge exchange tools.

The Togolese Red Cross and its Movement partners will be effective advocates, influencing both public behaviour and policy change at the national, regional and global levels.

The National Society will embark on a digital transformation of its systems, including effective information management and data protection. It will install software that enables the digital transformation of all

related departments, such as human resource management, project management and communications. The Togolese Red Cross will also work to ensure that it has organizational risk management systems in place across its branches at the national level. It will address risk management culture at all levels, with a clear link to accountability and quality assurance. In this context, the security assessment of the operational context is of utmost importance. The National Society will receive support to assess and establish its contextual security risk register, and develop mitigation measures to reduce any existing risk to an acceptable level. Through appropriate training, it will strengthen its capacities for safety assessment, knowledge sharing, and the extension of direct support through case-by-case coaching.

The National Society will also develop a strategy and action plan to mitigate the risks of fraud and corruption, harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse against staff or external members, including beneficiaries.

It will prioritize volunteer development and youth action as key catalysts for behavioural change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC, from its country cluster delegation in Abuja, which covers Nigeria, Ghana, Togo and Benin, supports the Togolese Red Cross on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including strengthening its auxiliary role. The IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme, and provides technical support in various areas.

In 2022, the IFRC supported the Togolese Red Cross through a [DREF operation](#) in relation to floods. The National Society had not used the DREF for a few years, so the IFRC supported it to ensure swift access to the funding mechanism and effective management of the response operation. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC, through its [Global Emergency Appeal](#), has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response.

The IFRC also provides technical and financial support to the National Society in the areas of health emergencies and community health, risk communication and community engagement, community development,












monitoring and evaluation, finance in emergencies, communications and institutional development projects.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, of links with development assistance, and of efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the four IFRC Pan-African initiatives focusing on Tree Planting and Care; Zero Hunger; Red Ready and National Society Development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

Participating National Society Support - Bilateral

Name of Partner NS	Funding Requirements	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
French Red Cross	CHF 0.02M								
German Red Cross	CHF 0.37M								
Italian Red Cross	CHF 0.07M								
Swiss Red Cross	CHF 0.45M								

Total

0.91M

The participating National Societies present in Togo are the German Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross. They support the Togolese Red Cross with community-based intervention projects in the areas of health, including maternal and child health, water, sanitation and hygiene, blood donation and disaster risk reduction.

The **French Red Cross** has supported the construction of the Voga Reception Centre for trainee nurses in the Maritime district, and it continues to support the project by training young nurses.

The **German Red Cross** is present in Togo with two delegates and 16 national staff. It supports activities in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in two regions.

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the construction of the Ona (Plateaux) Health Centre and its effective functioning. Medical personnel and Italian Red Cross volunteers visit the health centre whenever possible, to provide specialist care and equipment and build the capacities of permanent staff members. The Italian Red Cross has recently granted a support fund for building the capacity of Mothers' Clubs the Kara Region.

The **Swiss Red Cross** is present in Togo with one delegate and 26 staff. It supports activities in health, water, sanitation and hygiene, climate change adaptation, disaster management and National Society development.

The Togolese Red Cross has also had the opportunity to work on an ad hoc basis with other participating National Societies, notably the Qatar Red Crescent and the Turkish Red Crescent.

Movement coordination

The Togolese Red Cross has regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, to ensure the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The ICRC supports the National Society in the areas of restoring family links and communications, and it also supports training in disaster relief and management. The ICRC also works to disseminate information on the principles of intervention in emergency situations, the Fundamental Principles, international humanitarian law, and security and safety.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Togolese Red Cross coordinates closely with the public authorities. It benefits from the support of different National Consultation Councils, and various networks and platforms in Togo such as the Conseil de Concertation pour l'Eau et l'Assainissement de Base au Togo, civil society organizations, the HIV Platform, WILDAF Togo, and many others.

Other partners include the United Nations and other international organizations, including UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, FAO, UNDP, WFP, and international NGOs such as Plan International Togo, CRS, GIZ, Compassion International, Malaria Consortium, REDISSE and BM.

Areas of partnership include:

- The **Global Fund** works with the National Society in the fight against malaria, through communication actions, the management of simple malaria (with rapid malaria tests and distributions of malaria tablets), and building the capacity of grassroots organizations
- With **UNHCR** and **IOM**, the National Society is sometimes asked to facilitate the re-establishment of family ties, support relief distributions, and organize refugee awareness sessions on community health
- The partnership with **FAO** has a focus on empowering people in rural areas to reduce poverty through improved livelihoods for women and men – for example supporting Mothers' Clubs to strengthen the resilience of flood-affected households in the Savanes region
- **UNFPA** works with the National Society to tackle gender-based violence. It also contributes to raising the rate of attendance at health centres by taking a community approach, working with Papas Champions (men's committees) and Mothers' Clubs
- **UNICEF** and the National Society have collaborated on the prevention of and response to health emergencies and development projects in maternal and child health, particularly the promotion of essential family practices

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with **192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and around **14 million volunteers**. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

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