



# BOTSWANA

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement **CHF 2.1M**

Appeal number **MAABW003**

## In support of the Botswana Red Cross Society



**22**

National Society branches



**67**

National Society staff



**10,000**

National Society volunteers

## People to be reached



**10,000**

Climate and environment



**150,000**

Disasters and crises



**150,000**

Health and wellbeing



**2,000**

Migration and displacement



**5,000**

Values, power and inclusion

## IFRC network multiyear focus

### Longer term needs

- Food security and livelihoods
  - Disaster risk reduction
- Health and water, sanitation and hygiene
- Climate change adaptation and environmental protection

### Capacity development

- Branch development
- Internal systems strengthening
  - Financial sustainability

## Key country data

**Population** **2.4M**

**Long-term Climate Risk Index** **143**

**Human Development Index rank** **117**

**Population below poverty level** **19.3%**

## Hazards



Drought



Floods



Food insecurity



Cyclones



Earthquakes

## Funding requirements

**Total 2.1M** CHF

Through the IFRC

**1.3M** CHF

Host National Society

**800,000** CHF

### IFRC Breakdown

#### Longer term needs

**200,000** CHF  
Climate and environment

**300,000** CHF  
Disasters and crises

**500,000** CHF  
Health and wellbeing

**50,000** CHF  
Migration and displacement

**50,000** CHF  
Values, power and inclusion

**200,000** CHF  
Enabling local actors

## Participating National Societies

The Netherlands Red Cross\*



# NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

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**The Botswana Red Cross Society** was established as a National Society of the Republic of Botswana through an Act of Parliament in 1968 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1971. It has a mandate to play an auxiliary role to the authorities in alleviating human suffering by mobilizing the power of humanity and addressing humanitarian challenges as they emerge. The Botswana Red Cross has been, and continues to be, instrumental in mobilizing local communities to respond to these challenges. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society works closely with the National Disaster Management Office and various government ministries, and is a member of both the National Council on Disaster Management and the National Disaster Risk Management Technical Committee.

The National Society's head office is located in Gaborone. It covers the whole of Botswana through its 22 branches in Molepolole, Artesia, Malotwana, Mabesekwa, Tshesebe, Tsamaya, Francistown, Masunga, Marapong, Natale, Kang, Lehututu, Mabule, Gweta, Kasane, Kalamare, Serowe, S/Phikwe, Sefhare, Maun, Nxaraga and Tsau. Each branch is led by a committee of eight members. Additionally, Volunteer Action Teams are active in Gumare, Samochima, Letlhakane, Kalamare, Satau, Kachikau, Zoroga, Lesoma, Pandamatenga, Moshopa, Kanye, Gaborone, Magotlhwane, Tshane, Lokgwabe, Morwamosu, Tonota, Shashemooke, Dukwi, Lentsweletau, Kopong, Mabalane. Activities are coordinated by seven divisions: Southern, Kweneng and Kgatleng, Chobe, Ngami, Kgalagadi, Central, and

Northern. The National Society also has 538 registered members and 3 education centres.

The Botswana Red Cross currently runs programmes in the areas of health and care, disaster management, rehabilitation physiotherapy, education and care services. It also has early development programmes for children with special educational needs, and provides vocational training for people living with disabilities.

Volunteers are at the heart of the Botswana Red Cross. While the number of active volunteers fluctuates throughout the year, the National Society consistently has 10,000 volunteers participating every year. The volunteer base is largely made up of young people, but there are also those from other age groups, both male and female.

The Botswana Red Cross's priorities are:

- Strengthening its strategies for disaster management (preparedness, response and recovery)
- Increasing integrated community-based health, care and first aid services
- Improving governance at the headquarters and across all branches

The National Society is also committed to proactively fostering strategic partnerships, strengthening its volunteer base, building capacities for staff and volunteers, and fulfilling its commitments on transparency and accountability.

## IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

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### Joint situational analysis

Botswana is located in the centre of Southern Africa between South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. When it gained independence in 1966, it was one of the world's poorest countries, but it rapidly became a development success story. Botswana is now an upper-middle-income country with a transformation agenda of becoming a high-income country by 2036. This is due to its relatively small population of slightly more than two million, good governance, prudent economic management, and significant natural mineral resources, especially diamonds.

Botswana has a stable political environment and a multi-party democratic tradition, and it holds general elections every five years. The ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) has been in power since 1966. The 11th general election took place in October 2019, and His Excellency President Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi was re-elected as President.

Botswana's macroeconomic framework is based on prudent policies and good governance. Although there have been political and economic transformations over the years, there are still ongoing challenges.

The country's economic transformation has been slow because of declining revenues from minerals – diamonds in particular – and insufficient economic diversification. When the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, it exposed existing structural limitations: for example, Botswana's economic dependence on a single commodity (diamonds) makes it vulnerable to external shocks and various challenges associated with mineral-led economic growth.

Job creation is slow and the level of unemployment is high at 26 per cent by the end of 2021 (an increase from 24.5 per cent in 2020).

Economic growth rebounded in 2021 to approximately 12.1 per cent, and the World Bank has projected moderate growth of about 4.1 per cent in 2022. This is being driven by a reduction in the adverse effects of the pandemic, a stronger global demand for diamonds, the easing of COVID-19 travel restrictions, and the extensive rollout of COVID-19 vaccines. The Government maintains an accommodative monetary policy and continues to monitor the effects of supply shocks, price increases and rising inflation.

Persistent fiscal deficits have elevated public debt, which is estimated to be 25.5 per cent in 2022. The cost of extra spending during the pandemic continues to put pressure on the budget, although the overall fiscal deficit is likely to go down in the medium term. To create fiscal space and lower the deficit, the Government has introduced structural measures in the areas of revenue mobilization, managing fiscal expenditure and building back monetary buffers.

Living conditions have improved for the people in Botswana and poverty has fallen significantly. The proportion of the population living on less than US\$1.90 a day at the 2011 Purchasing Power Parity declined steadily from 29.8 to 18.2 per cent between 2002 and 2010, and it dropped again to 16.1 per cent by 2016. This rapid reduction in poverty is mainly attributed to growing agricultural incomes (including subsidies) and demographic changes. Between 2009 and 2016, the consumption growth rate was 0.42 per cent per year for the bottom 40 percentile of the population in

Botswana, and this rate was higher than for the top 60 percentile. This indicates an improvement in the level of shared prosperity distribution; however, this performance was only about average worldwide. Botswana remains one of the world's most economically unequal countries, although inequality has fallen. According to the Gini Index, income inequality fell from 60.5 to 53.3 per cent between 2010 and 2015, largely due to regional convergence resulting from fast growth in rural areas and demographic changes.

The recent Botswana Multi-Topic Survey: Labour Force Module Report indicates that the unemployment rate has gone up from 17.6 to 20.7 per cent, with youth unemployment posing a particular challenge. In order to address this issue, Botswana needs to improve the quality of its infrastructure, such as water and electricity supply. It also needs to focus on essential basic services including education, health and social safety nets, accelerate reforms to the business environment and effectively support entrepreneurship.

Botswana scores 0.42 on the World Bank's Human Capital Index. This suggests that a baby born in Botswana will grow up to be only 42 per cent as productive as they would have been if they had benefitted from a complete education and good quality health care. The purpose of the Human Capital Index is to encourage governments to invest in child health, nutrition and education, because these services are strongly linked to labour productivity and economic competitiveness. Education expenditure is among the highest in the world in Botswana, and includes the provision of nearly universal free primary education, but this has not created a skilled workforce.

Botswana, through its Vision 2036 Transformational Agenda, recognizes that climate change increases the risk of disasters such as fires, floods and droughts. The country plans to include climate-related vulnerability assessments, adaptations and mitigation in its development planning. It also intends to strengthen its work on disaster risk management and early warning systems, as well as public education and awareness.

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## Strategic priorities

### Climate and environment

More than two-thirds of the land in Botswana has an arid climate. The eastern part of the country gets

between 450mm and 550mm of rainfall each year, and this drops to about 250mm in Kgalagadi in the south-west. In the north, around Kasane, the annual rainfall

is much higher at 700mm. Climatic conditions present the greatest challenge to agriculture, which is the main source of livelihoods. Crops and livestock are at risk from winter frosts, excessively high summer temperatures, wide temperature variations throughout the day, strong winds, very rapid water evaporation rates and occasional hailstorms. Long dry winters and unreliable rainfall also present challenges. Climate change is exacerbating all these problems and threatening healthy crops, livestock and forests.

The main environmental issues in Botswana are water scarcity, environmental pollution, waste management, land degradation, deforestation and challenges brought about by climate change. These are outcomes of both global warming and human activities.

The [Botswana Vision 2036 Transformational Agenda](#) emphasizes that having a sustainable environment is one of the key pillars of achieving prosperity for all. This involves observing the ecosystem, putting acceptable limits on change, and promoting the maximum sustainable yield of renewable resources. Botswana is committed to including climate change vulnerability assessments, adaptation and mitigation in its development planning.

In October 2019, the Government, in cooperation with the United States, launched the [Forest Conservation Botswana's Trees for Life initiative](#) which aimed to plant 10,000 trees over 10 years in the regions of Molepolole, Ramotswa, Palapye, Maun and Tsabong.

### Main actions and areas of support

The IFRC and the Botswana Red Cross will support the country's climate agenda by training target communities on climate change risks and environmentally responsible practices, planting trees, promoting environmentally friendly energy resources, and establishing good waste management practices.

In line with government plans, the National Society plans to participate in the IFRC P-African Tree Planting and Care initiative, which is linked to Botswana's sustainable environment pillar.

### Disasters and crises

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

The most common natural hazards in Botswana are floods and droughts, which affect more than 50,000 people each year. In recent years, the country has also been affected by new threats, such as Tropical Cyclone

Dineo in 2017 and other extreme events like heatwaves and earthquakes.

According to the Botswana Vulnerability Assessment Committee report of July 2022, nearly 37,000 people will need food assistance until at least March 2023, as a result of these hazards.

According to the National Disaster Management Office, the Natural Disaster Risk Management Programme provides a guideline for planning and implementing responses against disasters in Botswana. The programme anticipates and identifies risks, and reduces vulnerability to the hazards most likely to occur. It defines the management structures through which disaster risk management can be implemented, coordinated and facilitated. The programme also identifies the roles and responsibilities of all national government departments and non-governmental organizations, for disaster risk assessment, preparation, reduction and response.

### Main actions and areas of support

The Botswana Red Cross responds to a range of different emergencies in Botswana, including recurring seasonal floods. It now intends to invest more in [anticipatory action](#), enabling it to act before disasters strike, thereby reducing their impacts. The National Society plans to explore forecast-based financing approaches, and focus on the use of cash transfers to support early action.

**Food insecurity:** The IFRC and the Botswana Red Cross will facilitate the development of strategic partnerships with other humanitarian actors in the country, for the advancement of the IFRC Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative. The Botswana Red Cross will provide people affected by food insecurity with timely and appropriate cash transfers, and support communities to scale up their integrated livelihoods programming in line with the Zero Hunger Initiative. With ongoing support from the IFRC and the Government, the National Society will continue to advocate for climate-smart agricultural practices in vulnerable communities, and support them to increase food production and reduce the number of food-insecure households.

**Sustainable livelihoods:** The Botswana Red Cross, in partnership with the Japanese Embassy in Botswana, has launched a community farm project in Gweta village. The farm has received financial support from the Japanese Government, and the project beneficiaries work together to grow vegetables to sell. This enables them to earn a living and improve their food security.

In 2023, the growers will produce tomatoes, cabbages, green peppers, lettuces, watermelons, spring onions and butternuts. This project is aligned with the Government's agenda of promoting local vegetable production and reducing imports, and it also aligns with the IFRC Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative.

**Multi-purpose cash:** The National Society aims to provide timely, adequate and flexible access to cash assistance for people affected by evolving crises and disasters. It will continue to engage with relevant stakeholders to encourage changes in policy and the law, to improve disaster preparedness, reduction and response.

**Red Ready initiative:** The Botswana Red Cross will contribute to the Government's plans on disaster risk management by strengthening its capacities and supporting people affected by crises and disasters with timely and appropriate in-kind assistance. It will support local communities with increasing their resilience to shocks and hazards. This is aligned with the IFRC Red Ready initiative. With support from stakeholders like the IFRC and the University of Botswana, the National Society continues to increase the capacities of its staff, volunteers and communities in hard-to-reach places. The Red Ready initiative focuses on strengthening disaster operations with improved management skills and coordination, while ensuring there is accountability through localization and the practical implementation of activities.

## Health and wellbeing

Non-communicable diseases are rising rapidly in Botswana, and the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that they cause 46 per cent of deaths. This adds to the already heavy burden of HIV/AIDS, cancer, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases and now COVID-19.

### Main actions and areas of support

The Botswana Red Cross aims to improve the public health sector by developing strategies, engaging in advocacy and policy platforms, and developing mechanisms to improve the health and well-being of communities. It plans to protect and improve access to life-long, sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services through advocacy, awareness-raising and support from the Government and other stakeholders.

The National Society plans to reach:

- 100,000 people through risk communication and community engagement; community-based care services for people with HIV/AIDS, COVID-19 and non-communicable diseases; health education on COVID-19 home care; demand creation for COVID-19 vaccines; and community tuberculosis care (while promoting the inclusion of at-risk populations such as migrants and marginalized communities in health programmes)
- 500 people through mental health and psychosocial support services
- 1,000 people through blood donation campaigns (collecting 200 pints from blood donation drives)
- 10,000 people through water, sanitation and hygiene activities

A continent-wide initiative between the IFRC and the Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will invest in building resilient public health security infrastructure in Africa. This will reinforce efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19 in Botswana. Under the US\$39 million Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative funded by the Mastercard Foundation, and in partnership with the Africa CDC, the IFRC and African National Societies are building a programme that aims to ensure that 60 per cent of African people are vaccinated against COVID-19. This partnership will support the procurement and delivery of tens of millions of COVID-19 vaccines, which in turn will help speed up economic recovery in Africa. Under this programme, the Botswana 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), manage COVID-19 vaccination centres (Amref Health Africa and GHSS) and operate safety surveillance (Akros).

## Migration and displacement

Over the last five years, the refugee population has dramatically declined in Botswana, largely because of growing political stability in the region. The number of irregular migrants in Botswana, especially those migrating for economic reasons, has been fluctuating. The numbers vary depending on opportunities in Botswana and South Africa, and on whether there are safe routes through Botswana. There is not much internal displacement and not many undocumented migrants in Botswana.

## Main actions and areas of support

Through the Restoring Family Links programme, the Botswana Red Cross helps people to contact their immediate family members after they have been separated by armed conflicts, natural disasters, migration and other humanitarian crises.

The National Society will engage with migrants, displaced persons and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs. It will undertake activities that support principled partnerships with other organizations in the field of migration and displacement, and activities that support cross-border and route-based cooperation between National Societies. With IFRC support, the Botswana Red Cross will promote access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes, along with durable solutions when appropriate. This includes services in the areas of health, psychosocial support, safe referrals, non-food and food items, shelter, cash and voucher assistance, risk communication and community engagement, livelihoods, education and other sectors. The National Society will also provide protection services for migrants (in line with protection, gender and inclusion guidelines and the minimum protection approach), including legal assistance, safe referrals, border and detention monitoring, restoring family links, child protection and anti-trafficking initiatives.

## Values, power and inclusion

Despite the pro-poor economic growth, Botswana is one of the most economically unequal countries in the world. [UNICEF reports](#) significant poverty among children, people living with disabilities, migrants and minority communities. Botswana has about 30 overlapping social protection programmes, implemented by 10 different government departments, but there are challenges in the management and coordination of the programmes. The overall provision of social protection is uncoordinated, it is not targeted towards poor and vulnerable households, and programmes often do not address issues of protection and inclusion. Many poor people do not benefit from the programmes, while other people benefit considerably.

The disparate nature of social protection programmes makes it difficult to gather consolidated data on their effectiveness or the public expenditure incurred. Procurement is a particularly problematic area, and system failures lead to gaps in the supply of food and related provisions for school children and other vulnerable groups. Government spending on social services

has historically been high, with more than one-third of fiscal spending devoted to the child-focused priority areas of health, primary and secondary education and social assistance. However, there is generally poor value for money because the results do not reflect the level of spending.

## Main actions and areas of support

The Botswana Red Cross is trained in Multi-Hazard Risk Communication and Community Engagement – a collaborative effort between WHO, the Ministry of Health, key government departments and civil society organizations – which supports the development of a road map for tackling public health risks.

The National Society plans to incorporate community feedback into its daily operations, and support a digital transformation initiative. With IFRC support, it will develop a community engagement and accountability policy, strategy and plan, and increase learning and capacity development in this area. It will innovate by using online approaches, distance radio learning solution training for volunteers, webinars and video tutorials. By continuously engaging with the communities it serves, the National Society aims to contribute to positive changes through a wider understanding, ownership and concrete application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles, focusing especially on young people's knowledge, skills and behaviour.

With IFRC support, the Botswana Red Cross will conduct protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) organizational assessments and establish a sustainable learning programme. It will implement and monitor the use of IFRC PGI minimum standards (including sex, age and disability disaggregated data) and the PGI in emergencies toolkit.

All children have a right to education, but some mainstream schools do not accommodate children living with disabilities. With a vision of not leaving anyone behind, the National Society will continue to support its three schools for people living with disabilities in Tlokweng, Francistown and Sefhare. These schools empower people living with disabilities to meet their basic needs and ensure their inclusion and participation in education, employment, health and social activities. The schools provide opportunities for people living with disabilities to develop their skills and abilities, and maximize their full potential. In 2023, the National Society will focus on engaging and collaborating with the education authorities and other relevant stakeholders, and sign a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education.



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## Enabling local actors

The Botswana Red Cross is committed to pursue its institutional strengthening, and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2021. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of a National Society as a whole, in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.

The IFRC will support the National Society in its development, in accordance with its strategic priorities.

### Engaged

The Botswana Red Cross will work to create a platform and space for humanitarian dialogue, keeping humanitarian work high on the agenda of stakeholders. To do this, it will invest in building its capacity for humanitarian diplomacy and negotiations, strengthen its communications and build its online presence to enable interactive engagements with various stakeholders across all sectors.

As an auxiliary to the Government, and mandated by an Act of Parliament in the humanitarian field, the National Society has an opportunity to act as a humanitarian resource centre in Botswana. This will support its shift in focus from responding to events to proactively addressing humanitarian challenges by building greater resilience in communities. Botswana hosts the South

Africa Development Community (SADC) headquarters, and its geographical location in the region could enable its National Society to serve as a regional and national humanitarian resource centre. The work involved in this will focus on three key areas:

**Community based-programming:** Establishing the Botswana Red Cross as a regional and national humanitarian resource centre will begin with excellence in community-based programming. Traditionally, Botswana has taken a bottom-up approach to planning, which makes it effective and sustainable. The National Society can take advantage of this systematic culture and indigenous knowledge to drive its humanitarian agenda. Its understanding of the links between different humanitarian challenges, particularly relating to climate change, will enable it to build a number of one-stop centres for community resilience around Botswana, strategically located to serve both local and regional humanitarian needs.

**Well-functioning branches:** It is expected that the proposed humanitarian resource centres will offer a diverse range of services, and this will require skilled staff and a robust volunteer base.

**Decentralization:** To develop the operational efficiency of these centres, the National Society will make decisions in the field with support from headquarters.

## Accountable

One of the goals of [The Botswana Red Cross Strategy 2025](#) is to become self-sufficient by building sustainable revenue streams, asset and property management capabilities and a human resource base.

The focus of the Botswana Red Cross is to become the trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action, with the ability to act in the global network, while engaging with partners and working collectively on the key challenges. To develop the characteristics of a well-functioning National Society, it prioritizes strong governance systems and structures, and the regular revision of management frameworks such as the constitution, legislation, staff policies terms and conditions of employment.

The National Society will work on improving its financial sustainability and invest in accountability and systems development. It will also scale up income-generating activities, such as the individual giving programme and commercial first aid training centres.

## Trusted

The National Society development priority areas focus on supporting its branch structure and providing effective emergency responses through the establishment of efficient systems. In line with the Red Ready initiative, the Botswana Red Cross will:

- Strengthen its financial systems
- Improve its planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems
- Produce a tailor-made financial risk management system, based on data evidence, using financial sustainability indicators and a dashboard
- Adopt scenario-based predictive modelling to reduce financial sustainability risks
- Invest in and implement innovative financial models, including social impact investment
- Revise its auxiliary role and mandate

With support from the IFRC, the Botswana Red Cross will ensure that it has functioning branches that have the capacity to implement humanitarian activities that address the needs of vulnerable people in communities, including through participation in [Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment](#) (BOCA) exercises.

The National Society will also ensure that it strengthens its governance structures and adheres to guidance instruments such as the constitution, the code of conduct and ethical guidelines for volunteers.

In delivering its services to beneficiaries, the National Society will continue to ensure the well-being of its volunteers and equip them with the necessary skills to fulfil their duties.

# THE IFRC NETWORK

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## The IFRC

**The IFRC** supports the Botswana Red Cross from its Southern Africa Cluster Delegation in Pretoria. IFRC support centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

Over the last decade, the IFRC has supported the National Society with occasional Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#) in relation to floods. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response, through its global Emergency Appeal.

## IFRC membership coordination

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, development assistance, and reinforcing the National Society's auxiliary role in Botswana.

The Botswana 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.

The National Society does not have any direct support from participating National Societies in Botswana, apart from on occasional projects, and its membership support comes mostly through the IFRC.

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## Movement coordination

Coordination between the Botswana Red Cross, the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) takes place as required and is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and

Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#). The ICRC Pretoria office supports the National Society on issues of international humanitarian law, civil-military relations and migration.

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## Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Botswana Red Cross works closely with government authorities and is part of all relevant national mechanisms. During emergencies, it participates in coordination meetings at the national and district levels, and collaborates with the District Disaster Management Committees on continuous assessments.

In addition to its work with government authorities, the National Society also partners with the UN agencies UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and FAO, and other non-government organizations. It plays a key role in providing humanitarian and development aid in Botswana and across the Southern Africa region.

### 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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## Contact Information

### **Michael Charles**

Head of Delegation  
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation  
for South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini,  
Lesotho & Namibia, based in  
Pretoria  
**T** +27 83 413 2988  
[michael.charles@ifrc.org](mailto:michael.charles@ifrc.org)

### **Louise Daintrey**

Head of Strategic Engagement  
& Partnerships  
IFRC Regional Office for Africa,  
Nairobi  
**T** +254 110 843978  
[louise.daintrey@ifrc.org](mailto:louise.daintrey@ifrc.org)

### **Botswana Red Cross Society**

**W** [botswanaredcross.org.bw](http://botswanaredcross.org.bw)

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