



EL SALVADOR

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

24 November 2023

IN SUPPORT OF THE SALVADOREAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



58

National Society branches



298

National Society staff



1,719

National Society volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Ongoing emergency operations



15,739

Disasters and crises



6,914

Health and wellbeing



15,739

Values, power and inclusion



3,837

Migration and displacement



57

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

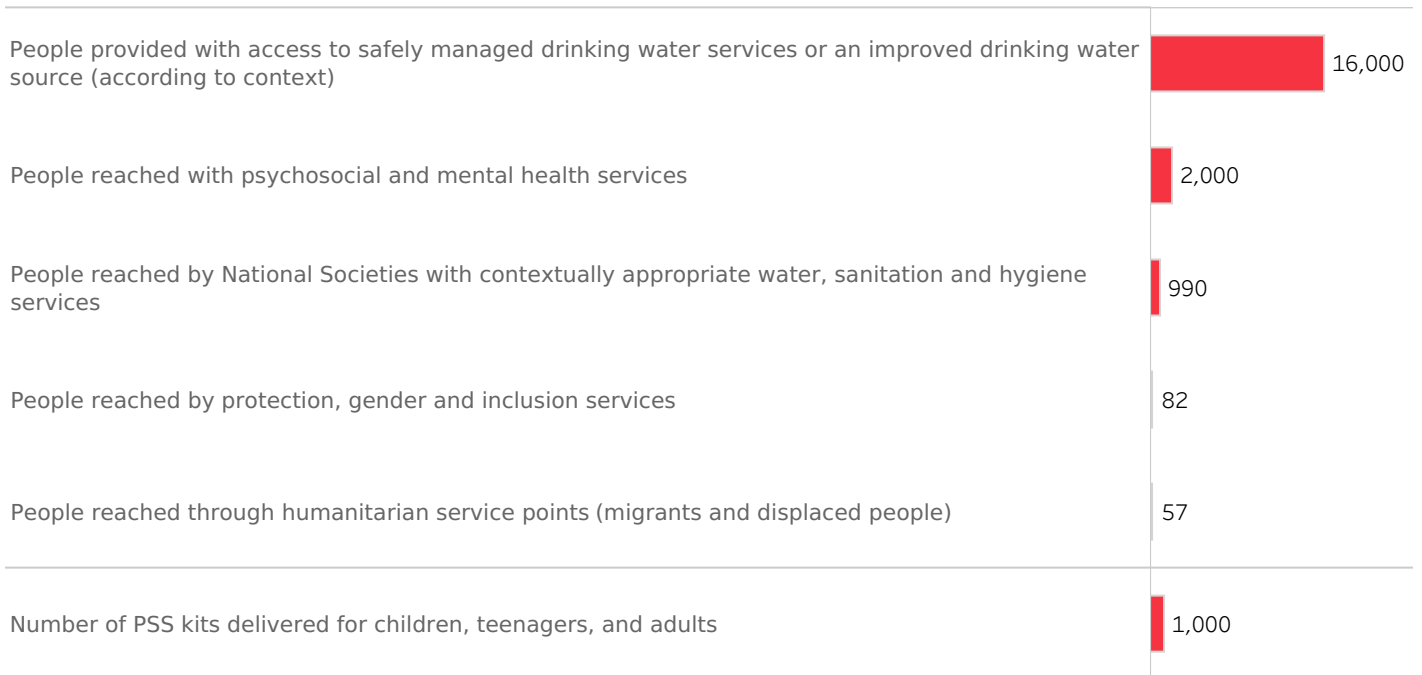
Total	Funding requirements		11.3M
IFRC	Emergency Operations	Funding requirements	584,000
		Income	87,000
	Longer-term	Funding requirements	785,000
		Income	2.8M
Participating National Societies	Funding requirements		6.2M
	Income		2.2M
Host National Society other funding sources	Funding requirements		3.8M

[Click here for more financial information](#)







Appeal numbers **MAASV003, MDR43008**

ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDR43008 / Central America & Mexico / *Migration Crisis*



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	Applicable data not available
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	Applicable data not available
	National Society is implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups	Applicable data not available
	National Society is developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks	Yes
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	 7,000
	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 6,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	Applicable data not available
Health and wellbeing	People reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	 16,000
	People reached with contextually appropriate health services	 2,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	 360
	People trained in first aid	Applicable data not available
Migration and displacement	People donating blood	Applicable data not available
	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	57
	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) that provided assistance and/or protection to people on the move along land based migration routes	3
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	 4,000
	People reached by National Society educational programmes	Applicable data not available

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

All volunteers are covered by health, accident and death compensation

Applicable data not available

National Society Development

One National Society Development plan is in place

Applicable data not available

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Multilateral Support	Bilateral Support					
		Climate	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing
American Red Cross	●	●			●	●	
British Red Cross	●						
German Red Cross					●	●	
Italian Red Cross		●			●	●	
Japanese Red Cross Society	●						
Netherlands Red Cross	●						
Norwegian Red Cross					●		●
Spanish Red Cross			●	●	●		
Swedish Red Cross	●						
Swiss Red Cross	●		●	●	●	●	

■ Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Key achievements

The Salvadorean Red Cross Society members, across all levels of the National Society, gained capacity in climate-smart livelihoods, as well as use of the Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (NEAT+).

Across the country, activities were carried out to promote basic information about the environment and climate change. In the first half of 2023, via four disaster risk management projects, 69 communities throughout the country benefited from disaster preparedness, disaster response and climate change activities.

There were 1,442 families reached with humanitarian assistance to cover basic needs through cash transfer. The families were impacted by long- and short-term crises or made vulnerable by human mobility.

A 5-year Improvement Plan was developed for different areas of the National Society, based on the Preparation for Effective Response evaluation process. The capacity to respond to droughts was strengthened through a training of trainers (ToT) workshop on Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA), facilitated by the Reference Centre for Community Resilience and Environment (CRREC) in Costa Rica. The National Society also developed a course, the Organization and Operation of Emergency Operations Centres (Organización y Funcionamiento de Centros de Operaciones de Emergencias – OFCOE), in order to build participants' knowledge and skills.

Community health interventions reached a total of 11,639 people from 46 communities, including basic water and sanitation services during emergencies.

People from 13 communities benefited from social inclusion programmes, including protection and inclusion activities, development opportunities, an inclusive institutional culture and promotion of access to health services.

The Salvadorean Red Cross is one of the National Societies participating in the Directorate-Generale for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP). The program <https://www.ifrc.org/get-involved/partner-us/multilaterals-and-international-financial-institutions/programmatic> is implemented with the support of the Spanish Red Cross (as lead EU National Society) in consortium with the Italian Red Cross and the IFRC Central America country cluster delegation in Panama. The ECHO PPP supports the National Society in disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, humanitarian assistance for people on the move, cash and voucher assistance, and community engagement and accountability. Within a complex operating environment, the PPP has enhanced impact of the National Society's activities by gearing them towards a programmatic, coherent and integrated approach rather than small-scale projects funded by different sources. Overall, the PPP has demonstrated that it is aligned with the National Society's overall strategy and is supporting the National Society's ambition to provide effective and adapted local response to communities while enhancing resilience of communities. The PPP has also instigated wider effort to enhance coordination within the IFRC network in-country and strengthened the National Society's partnerships with local, departmental and national institutions.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency Appeal name	Mexico and Central America migration crisis
Appeal number	MDR43008
Timeframe	17 months (29 July 2022 to 31 December 2023)
Funding requirements	IFRC Appeal: CHF 18 million Total Federation-wide: CHF 28 million
Appeal link	Mexico and Central America migration crises Emergency Appeal
Most recent operations update	Mexico and Central America migration crisis Appeal 12 month Operations Update
Link to operational strategy	El Salvador Operational Strategy

SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Objective: *Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions*

To date, the Salvadorean Red Cross is not implementing activities in this sector, due to the reprioritization defined in the Operational Strategy to respond to the constant change in migratory flows and limited availability of funds.



Livelihoods

Objective: *Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods*

To date, the Salvadorean Red Cross is not implementing activities in this sector, due to the reprioritization defined in the Operational Strategy to respond to the constant change in migratory flows and limited availability of funds.



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective: *Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs*

During the feasibility study, the Salvadorean Red Cross identified that migrants in transit face difficulties accessing traditional banking because they do not have a physical copy of their personal identification, only a digital copy that banks do not accept. Given significant legal restrictions related to cash distributions, this is not an option for financial assistance. The National Society is evaluating the possibility of distributing cards that may be exchanged for food.



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Objective: *Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community level interventions and health system strengthening*

The Salvadorean Red Cross has provided psychosocial care, mental health and self-care field trips, and the distribution of specialized psychosocial support kits to boys, girls, adolescents and adults. The kits include recreational materials for boys, girls and adolescents, and a guide on basic mental health exercises for adults.

Mental health interventions have also been provided to returning or displaced migrants, both individuals and families. Interventions are designed to occur on-site, where displaced people are encountered, thus strengthening their mental health, facilitating positive coping strategies and managing livelihoods.

Additionally, the Salvadorean Red Cross provided self-care workshops to the volunteers and staff of the National Society, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Migrant Care Unit (GAMI), the Executive Technical Unit of the Justice Sector, and Doctors of the World (Médicos del Mundo).



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective: *Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions*

The Salvadorean Red Cross distributed differentiated hygiene kits for women, pregnant women, girls, boys and men. Kits contained shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, lotion, toilet paper, and other items). Clothing kits were distributed for girls and boys from zero to two years old and from three to eight years old. In addition, drinking water has also been distributed in 600 ml plastic bottles.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective: *Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs*

The Salvadorean Red Cross has directly assisted people who have approached Humanitarian Service Points (HSP). Key messages about rights and long-lasting solutions are shared. In addition, the National Society carried out an analysis of the urgent protection, gender and inclusion needs that must be considered when providing services and distributing humanitarian assistance in order to guarantee relevancy and that those most in need are reached.



Migration

Objective: *The specific vulnerabilities of people on the move, including migrants, refugees and returnees, are analysed, and their needs and rights are met with targeted humanitarian assistance, protection and humanitarian diplomacy interventions, in coordination with relevant stakeholders and sectors.*

The Salvadorean Red Cross directly served people at HSP through psychosocial care, safe referrals and legal and immigration care. Supplies for distributing kits and water are provided by government entities and partner organizations, who also provide direct care and distribution of humanitarian aid. Among the government entities and organizations are the for Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Migrant Care Unit, the Missionaries of San Carlos Scalabrinianos and other civil society organizations. The National Society has not carried out actions to strengthen the HSPs, due to priorities defined in the Operational Strategy related to immediate needs that migrants are expressing, as well as limited access to funds.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from climate and environmental crises

Strengthening capacities in mitigation and adaptation to climate change for Salvadorean Red Cross members

The capacity of the National Society was strengthened through different trainings in which volunteers and staff from all organizational levels participated. Trainings included climate-smart livelihoods (23 people) and the Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (NEAT+) (39 people).

Community education around basic environment and climate change issues as well as formalization of institutional documents

The Salvadorean Red Cross carries out activities that promote caring for the environment and awareness of climate change. Clean up campaigns have been carried out in communities, as well as awareness talks in schools. Within the National Society, an Environment and Climate Change Policy is in development, which will describe institutional guidelines and guiding actions.



Disasters and crises

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards

Implementation of the Salvadorean Red Cross Crisis and Disaster Programme

Through four projects within the Crisis and Disaster Program, the Salvadorean Red Cross reached a total of 6,914 people and 69 communities in the first half of 2023. Activities included disaster preparation at the community and National Society level, disaster response, climate variability and climate change.

Through the National Society is supporting five communities to develop risk management plans, early warning systems and climate-smart livelihoods.

People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through access to assistance and support that is timely, adequate, flexible and strengthens their agency

Provide humanitarian assistance through the implementation of the Cash Transfer Programme

During the first half of 2023, a total of 5,768 people (1,442 families) were reached with humanitarian assistance through the implementation of Cash Transfer projects. This humanitarian assistance helped families impacted by long- and short-term crises or by human mobility.

National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and their auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well defined and recognised

Improved compliance with requirements for an Effective Response

The Salvadorean Red Cross carried out the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) self-assessment in order to evaluate the preparation and response capacity of the National Society in the face of crises and disasters. Thirty-seven components were assessed, and gaps were identified. The National Society developed a five-year plan to improve the identified gaps.

Strengthening capacities in response topics: National Intervention Teams (NIT), Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA), etc.

Within project “Drought and food security in Central America”, eight members of the Salvadorean Red Cross participated in a ToT for the Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (EVCA) for droughts methodology. The workshop was facilitated by the Reference Centre for Community Resilience Environment (CRREC) of Costa Rica. Those trainers may now train others across the National Society.

The Organization and Operation of Emergency Operations Centres (Organización y Funcionamiento de Centros de Operaciones de Emergencias – OFCOE) course was carried out in order to build participants’ knowledge and skills. This was supported by the ECHO PPP. Twenty-one National Society members received the training (16 men and five women).

Strengthening preparation capacities of the Salvadorean Red Cross based on forecasts and the Cash and Vouchers Assistance (CVA) Programme

Forty-four members of the Salvadorean Red Cross received training in Cash and Vouchers Assistance (CVA), as well as how to Access the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF). The National Society has reviewed, updated and validates the guidelines and protocols for CVA, establishing criteria and processes with support from ECHO PPP.



Health and wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course

Development of a plan to share information and raise awareness about health topics for users of the Salvadorean Red Cross health services

Raising awareness through the Salvadorean Red Cross Emergency Clinics made it possible to reach 568 people with information such as prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases, promotion of a healthy lifestyle and first aid.

Quality, personalized patient care

The Salvadorean Red Cross clinics providing emergency, dentistry and respiratory therapy services performed over 12,500 medical procedures in the first half of 2023, including medical consultations, wound care, respiratory therapy and stitches.

Psychosocial care for populations affected by crisis

The National Society provided long-term protection and psychosocial care services for persons affected by armed violence. Comprehensive care and restitution of rights was promoted, and special emphasis given to people affected by missing family members, survivors of sexual violence with multiple perpetrators, and those facing forced internal displacement or forced migration. During the first half of the year, the Salvadorean Red Cross managed 58 cases involving a total of 360 people (203 women and 157 men).

The health and dignity of communities in emergencies are maintained by providing access to appropriate health services

Implementation of the Community Health programme

The Community Health programme executed three projects. A total of 11,639 people from 46 communities were reached with interventions basic water and sanitation services during emergencies, strengthening access to community health services and disease prevention.

Through the ECHO PPP, the National Society working in five communities to form health and train health committees and to raise awareness on disease prevention and safe water, sanitation and hygiene.



Migration and displacement

The Salvadorean Red Cross carries out various projects throughout the country to assist migrants under its Social Inclusion pillar, including the ECHO PPP. The National Society focuses on the most vulnerable groups, including returned migrants and migrants who pass through El Salvador following the migratory route to the north of the continent. More information can be found under Values, power and inclusion. Additionally, activities have been carried out under the Mexico and Central America migration crisis operation. More information on this may be found above in the Ongoing emergency response section.



Values, power and inclusion

National Societies contribute to a positive change in communities through a wider understanding, ownership and concrete application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles, focusing especially on young people's knowledge, skills and behaviour

Implementing the Social Inclusion Programme

A total of 3,837 people from various target groups (1,191 men and 2,646 women) have been reached through social inclusion interventions across 13 communities. The activities are classified under the work pillar: Protection and Inclusion, Development Opportunities, Inclusive Institutional Culture and the Promotion of Access to health services.

Strengthening capacities in entrepreneurship and employability for people in target communities, with special emphasis on youth and women

Three projects were carried out in the first half of 2023, providing young people, women and people with disabilities with opportunities for entrepreneurship and employment. Activities included scholarships and seed capital, facilitated by strategic alliances with the Ministry of Work and companies. Sixty-five people in total were reached.

National Societies and the IFRC Secretariat adopt a comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion approach across operations and programmes

Development of a Social Inclusion and Gender Training Plan

A Social Inclusion and Gender Training Plan was developed in order to strengthen National Society capacities to respond to mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs of Salvadorean Red Cross employees and volunteers. The goal is to raise awareness about basic mental health concepts and to foster good working relationships. Thus,

the National Society will be better positioned to respond to crises, provide self-care tools, and provide training in psychological first aid (PFA) and suicide prevention.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

National Societies and the IFRC network have a strong public profile and are effective advocates, influencing both public behaviour and policy change at the domestic, regional and global levels

Strengthen institutional knowledge

Knowledge of the Salvadorean Red Cross' institutional values is shared with employees and volunteers via continuous training in basic doctrine, institutional Principles and Values, explanation of services offered and Safer Access (training to facilitate working in communities with situations of violence). Within the first half of the year, 315 members were reached, both volunteers and employees.

Coordination

The Salvadorean Red Cross is coordinating closely with the Spanish Red Cross (as lead EU National Society), the Italian Red Cross and the IFRC Central America country cluster delegation in Panama to implement the ECHO PPP. There is greater Movement coordination in country in the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, humanitarian assistance for people on the move, CVA, and CEA. There is also greater knowledge sharing and coordination with National Societies in Central America, particularly in relation to migration.



National Society development

The IFRC network uses innovative and transformative approaches to better anticipate, adapt to and change for complex challenges and opportunities

Strengthening institutional capacities in information management, with a focus on emergencies and disasters

Training in information management was provided to 29 members of the Salvadorean Red Cross, with the objective to put into practice various tools that can be used in emergencies and disasters to collect and analyse information.

Through the PPP, in order to strengthen the work of the National Society, staff have participated in regional early response and epidemic workshops, identifying priority needs of the National Society's medical clinic and its water treatment plans used in emergency response. A training in psychosocial support and first aid that can be provided at HSPs was conducted for volunteers from nine branches.

Improve institutional project management

The improvement of institutional project management has continued with the development of the Salvadorean Red Cross Project Management Manual. The objective of the Manual is to document and systematize the processes carried out by the Salvadorean Red Cross in the project management cycle. With this input, the guidelines that will govern the management of institutional projects have been defined and continuous improvement processes will begin.

IFRC network prioritizes volunteering development and youth action as critical catalysts of behavioral change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts

Plan for motivating volunteers and providing incentives – Carry out the plan to plan to attract volunteers at the national level

The Motivation and Incentives Plan for volunteers is under development. Its purpose is to improve retention and motivation of volunteers in the Salvadorean Red Cross. Parallel, a Volunteer Recruitment Plan is being developed, which hopes to delineate concrete actions for motivating people to join the Salvadorean Red Cross.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

The IFRC network undergoes a digital transformation

Improve the connectivity of Branches

A project to strengthen National Society technological capabilities resulted in outfitting 29 Branches with new computers and internet access. This complemented the emergencies and disasters information management project (mentioned above).

The IFRC Secretariat has a renewed partnership with its members and develops a new financing architecture to increase financial resources for the benefit of National Societies

Certification of the Quality Management System – Implementation of a user service approach – Raising staff awareness about the importance of continuous improvement

The Salvadorean Red Cross is in the final stages of implementing the Quality Management System (QMS) in its Blood Centre. The QMS allows the National Society to identify and implement improvement projects in order to enhance user satisfaction and raise awareness for staff about the need for continuous improvement.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 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.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2023. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

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](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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