



# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

14 December 2023

## IN SUPPORT OF THE DOMINICAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



170

National Society branches



868

National Society staff



14,693

National Society volunteers

## PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



1,000

Disasters and crises



4,000

Health and wellbeing



49,000

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

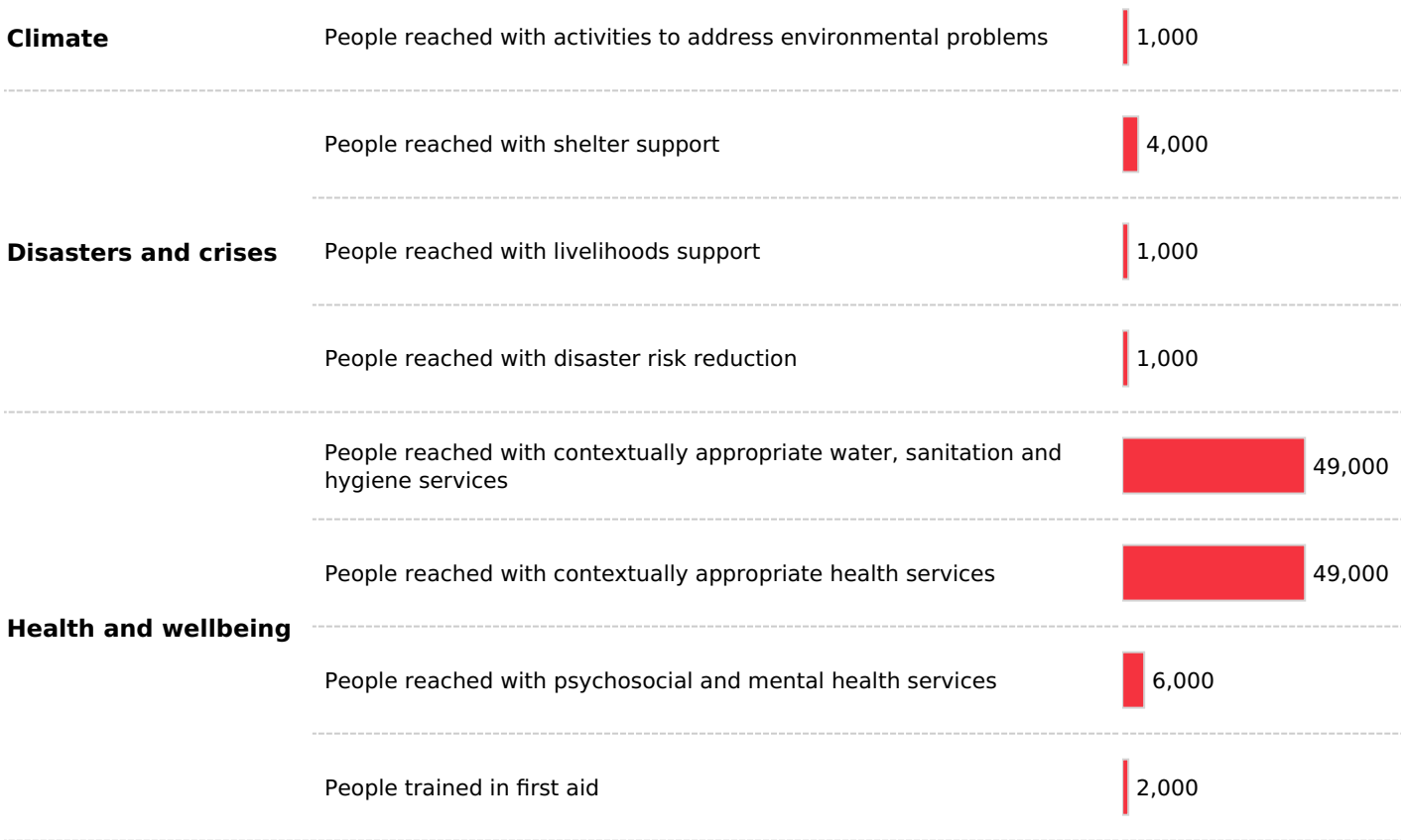
in Swiss francs (CHF)

<b>Total</b>		Funding requirements	2.2M
<b>IFRC</b>	Longer-term	Funding requirements	1.9M
		Income	130,000
<b>Participating National Societies</b>		Funding requirements	200,000

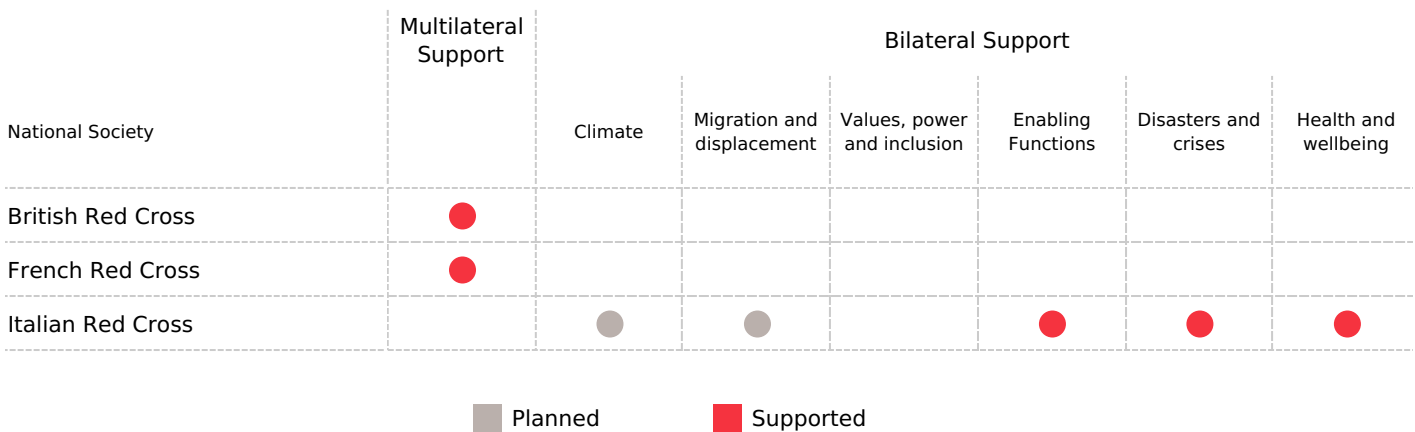
[Click here for more financial information](#)

Appeal numbers **MAA49004**

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



## IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES



# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

The most significant events affecting the humanitarian situation in the Dominican Republic during 2023 were related to public health, the effects of climate change and migration.

Although significantly under reported, the cholera outbreak of late 2022 has been spreading in the Dominican Republic. According to the [Pan American Health Organization's situation report](#) on the cholera outbreak in Hispaniola in 2023, as per data from May 2023, the Dominican Republic had 99 cholera cases of which 74 were in the capital, Santo Domingo.

The [World Bank's Dominican Republic Overview](#) indicated that "A comprehensive adaptive social protection strategy has been disseminated and considered for inclusion in the reform of the natural disaster risk management law. The strategy aims to increase the resilience of poor and vulnerable households, through social policies and programmes to support and strengthen their ability to prepare for, cope with, and recover from a disaster. Also, in the past months, advice and capacity building support has been provided for the preparation of a general water law that will reform the sector's institutional framework. Also in place is an ongoing dialogue with the government to support the design of a national water sector modernisation programme to achieve the vision of the Water Pact."

[ACAPS country analysis](#) states that around 122,900 Venezuelan migrants and refugees were hosted in the Dominican Republic as of the beginning of 2023. Most have come to the country because of the economic collapse in Venezuela. Further, according to a [field report by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies \(IFRC\)](#), migration between Haiti and the Dominican Republic is an issue that requires a comprehensive vision and binational cooperation for its management. It is necessary to recognise the structural causes that give rise to this phenomenon, as well as its consequences and impacts on both countries. It is also essential to guarantee respect for the human rights of Haitian migrants and to promote their social and economic integration in the Dominican Republic.

## Key achievements

- Two operations, funded by IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF), were launched to support **the Dominican Red Cross Society's** response to emergencies in 2023.
- The Dominican Red Cross Society and Haitian Red Cross Society continue an open dialogue for closer collaboration among the two National Societies.

The Italian Red Cross Society has been supporting the Dominican Red Cross in strategic priorities of emergency response, health and wellbeing, migration and National Society Development. During the first six months of 2023, the Italian Red Cross, supported a project on maternal and child health, provided technical support to emergency response to address the hurricane season and supported the department of youth and training to develop activities for their annual plan. The Italian Red Cross also supported the design and submission of two project proposals related to climate change and disaster risk reduction, pending final decisions.

## Changes and amendments

There have been no changes to the 2023 Unified Plan for the Dominican Republic.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

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An operation was launched for the Dominican Republic in response to Hurricane Fiona during late September 2022, funded by IFRC's DREF. An [IFRC Emergency Plan of Action](#) was published for this. Although the operation was scheduled for an initial three months, it was necessary to extend the timeframe until 31 March 2023, which was done through [Operations Update 1](#) in December 2022.

The response actions by the Dominican Red Cross incorporated the implementation of climate-smart livelihood projects developed using the Nexus Environment Assessment Tool (NEAT+), an environmental screening tool designed for humanitarian practitioners. The assessments conducted resulted in two micro-projects and cash grants benefiting 1,450 people in communities in El Seibo and La Altagracia provinces.



### Disasters and crises

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Through the IFRC-DREF operation, the Dominican Red Cross teams assisted and supported 49,253 people in communities through shelter support (roof repairs, distribution of shelter tool kit), as well as community health, hygiene promotion and vector control in the provinces of La Romana, El Seibó, San Pedro de Macorís, La Altagracia, Samaná and Monte Plata.

Throughout the implementation of the emergency response activities following Hurricane Fiona, the National Society received technical support through the IFRC Rapid Response (Surge) mechanism. This was to strengthen its information management tools for processing and analysing emergency related data with the aim of updating relevant information on the [IFRC GO country page for the Dominican Republic](#).

A second operation, funded by IFRC's DREF, was launched in response to floods during early June 2023. An [IFRC Emergency Plan of Action](#) was published for this. Between 2–4 June 2023, the Dominican Republic experienced numerous incidents of urban and rural flooding, overflowing river and landslides. The National Meteorological Office attributed these events to the presence of a trough at various levels of the troposphere, along with the passage of a tropical wave over the Caribbean Sea. These weather phenomena led to increased humidity and instability, resulting in heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, and strong wind gusts. The affected areas spanned several provinces, including Azua, Barahona, Bahoruco, Dajabón, Elías Piña, Espaillat, Independencia, La Vega, Pedernales, Santiago, and Santiago Rodríguez. The Emergency Operations Centre issued nationwide alerts based on this information.

On 19th June, an initial amount was approved for a period of three months to respond with health, livelihoods, shelter, water and sanitation, protection, gender and inclusion, secretariat services and National Society strengthening. On 23rd August, Tropical Storm Franklin landed on the Island of La Hispaniola directly impacting the six provinces mentioned above, as well as other new provinces. This exacerbated the already existing vulnerabilities of the affected population. Considering that the Dominican Red Cross was already responding in these six provinces, the National Society coordinated with the government to scale-up its response in these areas and address the additional needs generated by Tropical Storm Franklin, while the government could focus on the other provinces affected. On 5th September, [Operations Update 1](#) was published to increase the funding to support those affected by Tropical Storm Franklin, as well as increase the timeframe of the operation for two additional months until 30 November 2023.



## Health and wellbeing

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No activities were reported during this reporting period.



## Migration and displacement

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No activities were reported during this reporting period.



## Values, power and inclusion

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No activities were reported during this reporting period.

# ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



## Strategic and operational coordination

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During May 2023, the president of the Haiti Red Cross visited the president of the Dominican Red Cross, during which the following matters were discussed and agreed upon:

- Strengthening of peer-to-peer work and collaboration between both National Societies.
- Capacity for response through the humanitarian corridors for the Latin Caribbean.
- Joint efforts to address the humanitarian situation at the border between the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- IFRC funding availability and fundraising efforts.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) supports the Dominican Red Cross through its delegation for Latin America and the Caribbean based in Venezuela.

The Italian Red Cross supports the Dominican Red Cross through its delegation for Latin America and Caribbean, with a delegate present in-country.



## National Society development

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During 2023, IFRC continued to support the Dominican Red Cross with National Society development technical assistance and guidance for continuation of organizational development processes.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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The Dominican Red Cross continues to strengthen humanitarian disaster law initiatives linked to the management of the logistics warehouse in Santo Domingo and humanitarian corridors procedures and protocols.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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The Dominican Red Cross will be applying to the Capacity Building Fund in 2023 to strengthen its systems for accountability and agility.



## 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](#)

### Contact Information

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#### Dominican Red Cross

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