



TURKMENISTAN

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

14 December 2023

IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY OF TURKMENISTAN



51

National Society branches



172

National Society staff



5,000

National Society volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



100

Disasters and crises



9,000

Health and wellbeing



900

Migration and displacement



4

Values, power and inclusion



13,000

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Total	Funding requirements		7.1M
IFRC	Longer-term Funding requirements		3.9M
	Income		385,000
Participating National Societies	Income		33,000
Host National Society other funding sources	Funding requirements		3.2M
	Income		423,000

[Click here for more financial information](#)

Appeal numbers **MAATM002**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	100
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	100
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	9,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	5,000
Health and wellbeing	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	102
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	900
	People reached with contextually appropriate health services	900
	People trained in first aid	795
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	4
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by National Society educational programmes	13,000
	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	85
	People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming	15
	Community Engagement and Accountability is integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC network is part of	1
	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	3
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National Society Development	One National Society Development plan is in place	Yes
	Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented	Yes
	Youth engagement strategy is developed or in place	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Multilateral Support	Bilateral Support				
		Climate	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing
National Society						
British Red Cross	●					
Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzst..				●		
Spanish Red Cross				●		

■ Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Arkadag, the first smart city in Central Asia, represents a significant milestone in urban development and technological advancement in the region. The opening of a branch of **the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan** in this smart city underscores the importance of integrating humanitarian efforts and support services within such innovative urban environments, ensuring the well-being and safety of the city's residents while harnessing technology for the greater good.

Under the motto "Happy youth with Arkadag Serdar," Turkmenistan in 2023 is focusing on the well-being and empowerment of its young population. This presents an opportunity for the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan and all organizations to actively participate and contribute to the nation's youth development and happiness.

The provision of humanitarian aid to Turkey marks a significant milestone for the National Society, as it represents the first instance of the organization extending its assistance efforts beyond its borders. This act reflects the National Society's commitment to humanitarian principles and its willingness to provide support to neighboring countries or regions facing crises or emergencies.

The administrative-territorial division changes in Turkmenistan, including the unification of certain regions, have resulted in a reduction in the number of branches (districts), volunteer centers, and staff for humanitarian and community organizations operating in the country. This transformation reflects adjustments in the organizational structure to align with the new administrative boundaries and priorities.

The establishment of a charitable foundation in Turkmenistan in 2021 to support children in need of guardianship is a commendable initiative. The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan has actively participated by providing assistance in some cases for surgery and treatment. Additionally, the National Society has received a proposal to participate in the rehabilitation of children after surgery or treatment.

Key achievements

- The implementation of community engagement and accountability (CEA) and humanitarian diplomacy programmes within the National Society demonstrates a commitment to humanitarian principles and effective engagement with local communities and external stakeholders.
- Implementing a first aid programme is a fundamental aspect of the work carried out by the National Society.
- The establishment and maintenance of emergency stockpiles are critical for timely and effective disaster response. Having these stocks in place ensures that essential relief supplies are readily available to assist affected communities during crises.
- The development of volunteering is a crucial aspect of any humanitarian or community-focused organization, including the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan. The growth and development of volunteers are vital for the success of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan. By investing in volunteering development, the National Society can mobilize a dedicated and skilled volunteer force to support its various programmes and respond to emergencies.
- Activities with volunteers and youth (European Central Asia Youth Network): Engaging with volunteers and youth is essential for the sustainability and relevance of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. These activities not only empower young people but also bring fresh perspectives and energy to humanitarian efforts.
- Collaborating with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on capacity-building projects demonstrates a commitment to enhancing the organization's capabilities. Such projects empower the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan to better serve its communities and respond effectively to emerging challenges.

- E-Learning of IFRC opened in Turkmenistan: The establishment of an eLearning platform by IFRC in Turkmenistan underscores the importance of accessible and continuous learning for humanitarian workers. This initiative facilitates the dissemination of knowledge and skills among National Society staff, volunteers, and partners.
- Establishing cooperation with various international organizations and engaging in projects with United Nations agencies.

Changes and amendments

- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan's proactive approach to designing projects and seeking funding is essential for expanding its humanitarian initiatives and addressing the needs of vulnerable communities.
- The National Society's involvement in ecological campaigns and humanitarian diplomacy efforts, such as the "A drop of water, a grain of gold" campaign and drawing contest, demonstrates its dedication to raising awareness and promoting environmental sustainability. Collaborations with a diverse range of stakeholders, including the European Union (EU), NGOs, and business entities, broaden the National Society's network and resources for achieving its humanitarian goals.
- Conducting a desk review of CEA on the national level and providing training for volunteers and staff, in cooperation with UNICEF, indicates a commitment to enhancing community engagement practices and overall programme development. The insights gained from the CEA desk review and training initiatives can inform the development strategies of both IFRC and the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan, leading to more effective humanitarian interventions and improved community engagement.

Needs

- Continuing and extending the project funded by USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance, is essential to ensure the ongoing provision of humanitarian assistance and support to vulnerable populations. It took some time to get approval from the Ministry of Justice.
- Collaborative efforts with Participating National Societies can significantly contribute to the development and capacity-building of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan. These partnerships provide opportunities for knowledge exchange, resource sharing, and mutual support.
- The Crises Center project's success relies on additional support, including construction and furnishing of the facility. The readiness of Winrock to fund staff salaries is a positive step, and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Winrock demonstrates commitment to the project's objectives.
- The acceptance and implementation of monitoring and evaluation tools, along with a well-defined strategy, are essential for assessing programme effectiveness and impact. These tools can inform decision-making and help in achieving better outcomes. Developing a performance evaluation system for staff members is crucial for recognizing and enhancing their contributions. It ensures that staff members are motivated, accountable, and aligned with organizational goals.
- Establishing a clear code of conduct for volunteers, along with formal agreements and standards for volunteer engagement, enhances the professionalism and accountability of the volunteer workforce. This, in turn, contributes to the quality of humanitarian services provided. Standardizing documents and application forms for volunteers streamlines administrative processes and ensures consistency in volunteer management. It simplifies recruitment, training, and record-keeping.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

The procurement and provision of water pumps for the pilot region within the USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance programme, which is funded through IFRC has been extended. This extension involves a no-cost extension, granting an additional month to continue and complete the water pump project.



Disasters and crises

The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan has been reinforcing both local and national capacities for emergency preparedness and response in the country throughout the period of 2021–2023 within the framework of the IFRC Central Asian programme. The funding for this programme is provided by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, and the IFRC and UNICEF are the contract holders responsible for its implementation. Under the auspices of the IFRC-funded programme, the National Society has successfully achieved the following:

- Disaster preparedness and response: Strengthening community-based and child-centered emergency preparedness and response. Additionally, the integration of programming that is sensitive to climate change adaptation has been accomplished.
- Disaster risk reduction: Enhancing children-centered community-based disaster risk reduction interventions and school safety measures. This has led to heightened preparedness among children and their communities in the face of potential disasters, thereby minimizing their impact. Similar to above, programming has been integrated with a focus on climate change adaptation.
- Youth engagement: Involving young volunteers, as well as adolescent girls and boys, in disaster-prone areas to partake in community disaster preparedness efforts and comprehensive school safety initiatives. The awareness-building component related to climate change adaptation has also been incorporated.
- Shock responsive social protection: The preparedness for cash-based interventions (Cash preparedness) of the National Red Crescent Societies has been enhanced. Moreover, the programme has successfully provided multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance to selected communities that are particularly prone to disasters.

In addition, the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is actively preparing a Rapid Response Team training programme for its volunteers who will participate in the national camp. This programme is part of their ongoing efforts to enhance the skills and readiness of their volunteer workforce, ensuring a swift and effective response during emergencies and disasters.



Health and wellbeing

The Tuberculosis Prevention and Support project in Turkmenistan, supported by the Global Fund and UNDP, is an important and ongoing initiative led by the National Society. Tuberculosis prevention and support are crucial aspects of healthcare, and this project contributes to efforts to control and manage the disease in the country.



Migration and displacement

The continuation of the UNHCR project through the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is significant, indicating the ongoing commitment to addressing refugee-related issues and providing support to displaced populations. The project focuses on providing essential assistance, protection, and services to refugees and displaced individuals, with the goal of improving their living conditions and fostering solutions to their displacement.



Values, power and inclusion

- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is currently in discussions about implementing a community engagement and accountability foundation training programme. This is a significant step toward strengthening community engagement and accountability practices within the organization. The expected timeline for its implementation is the second half of 2023. This initiative reflects National Society's commitment to involving communities in decision-making and improving accountability in its humanitarian activities.
- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan has signed an agreement with UNICEF on accountability to affected population and adolescents' engagement. This partnership allows the National Society to engage in activities related to accountability, disaster preparedness, and climate change.
- The National Society has designed projects in collaboration with partners such as the Canada Embassy and OSCE. These projects focus on critical issues like gender, domestic violence, human trafficking, and the establishment of a crisis center for victims. While not all projects received support this year, the proactive approach to addressing these issues is commendable.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

- The National Society has established partnerships and signed Memoranda of Understanding with organizations like Winrock International, UNICEF, and the European Union in Turkmenistan, further expanding its network and impact.
- The organization has been included in the European Central Asia Youth Network, providing opportunities for regional cooperation and collaboration.



National Society development

- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is collaborating with the Spanish Red Cross on the "Development of volunteering in Turkmenistan" project. This project aims to enhance and promote volunteering activities within Turkmenistan. Volunteering is a critical component of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and this project demonstrates the commitment to mobilizing local volunteers to support community-based initiatives and humanitarian efforts.
- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan has applied to the Global Volunteering Alliance through IFRC, indicating its commitment to expanding its volunteer network and engagement.



Humanitarian diplomacy

- The National Society is collaborating with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the dissemination of crucial principles and standards related to International Humanitarian Law, Restoring Family Links, and Humanitarian Values. This dissemination effort includes educational and awareness programmes designed to inform and educate both the organization's volunteers and the general public about the importance of International Humanitarian Law, the rights of affected individuals and the core Humanitarian Values that guide the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Humanitarian diplomacy is a vital aspect of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's work. It involves engaging with governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to advocate for humanitarian principles, access to affected populations, and support for humanitarian efforts. The National Society's involvement in humanitarian diplomacy activities demonstrates its commitment to addressing humanitarian challenges, advocating for the needs of affected communities, and fostering international cooperation to advance humanitarian objectives.
- Initiatives like the conception for students and school children, along with professional development programmes, highlight the National Society's efforts to build its profile and strengthen its capacity.

Policy and practice change:

- Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is actively supporting the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan in advocating for specific policy changes. This collaborative effort resulted in two of the three policy asks being reflected in the UN Secretary General's opening statement at the UN Water Conference in 2023. This demonstrates the impact of the National Society's policy advocacy work.
- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan utilizes its website and popular local websites to disseminate information about its activities and raise awareness among the public. This demonstrates transparency and commitment to engaging with the community.
- Educational materials, including coloring books for children (500 units), tabbed books (500 units), and manuals for employees and volunteers (27 units), have been developed and printed. These materials serve as valuable resources for training and awareness campaigns.

Public engagement:

- The Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan is actively engaged in public awareness campaigns and advocacy efforts. These include initiatives related to World Water Day, World Health Day, and Earth Day. These campaigns address critical issues and promote community well-being.
- The "Development of Volunteering in Turkmenistan" project, training of trainers for volunteers and staff, and proposals for international youth cooperation demonstrate the National Society's commitment to engaging the public and fostering a culture of volunteerism.
- Celebrations and campaigns related to important dates, such as International Women's Day on 8th March, Red Cross Day on 8th May, 97th anniversary of the Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan on 26th April highlight RCST's dedication to recognizing and supporting vulnerable populations.
- The drawing competition and initiatives like "A saved drop of water will return with grace" reflect the organization's commitment to raising awareness on essential issues.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

No activities reported during this reporting period.



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](#)

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