



HONDURAS

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

9 February 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 29.9M**

In support of the Honduran Red Cross



Cruz Roja
Hondureña



53

National Society branches



491

National Society staff



6,005

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



7,000

Climate and
environment



371,000

Disasters
and crises



90,000

Health and
wellbeing



173,000

Migration and
displacement



81,000

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- disaster risk management
- climate change adaptation
- violence prevention and protection
- epidemic preparedness and response

Capacity development

- digital transformation
- partnerships and resource mobilization
- quality and upgraded management systems

Key country data

Population

10.4M

INFORM Severity rating

high

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

medium

Human Development Index rank

137

Population below poverty level

48.0%

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Costa Rica, El Salvador,
Guatemala, Honduras & Panama, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Funding requirements

2024

2025**

2026**

Total 15.4M CHF

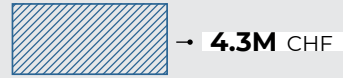
Total 12.5M CHF

Total 2M CHF

Through the IFRC



Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



Through the IFRC



Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



Through the IFRC

2.1M CHF

***Projected funding requirements*

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

50,000 CHF
Climate and environment

175,000 CHF
Disasters and crises

34,000 CHF
Health and wellbeing

920,000 CHF
Migration and displacement

90,000 CHF
Values, power and inclusion

462,000 CHF
Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

British Red Cross*

Canadian Red Cross Society

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

**National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2023.*

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAAHN003

Hazards



Population movement



Hurricanes and cyclones



Floods



Drought



Disease outbreaks



Economic hardship

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Honduran Red Cross** is recognized by the state as a voluntary, autonomous relief society, and was established in 1937. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1945. The National Society works with vulnerable people as an auxiliary to the public authorities, supporting state humanitarian actions to improve the situations of people affected by disasters, emergencies and crises.

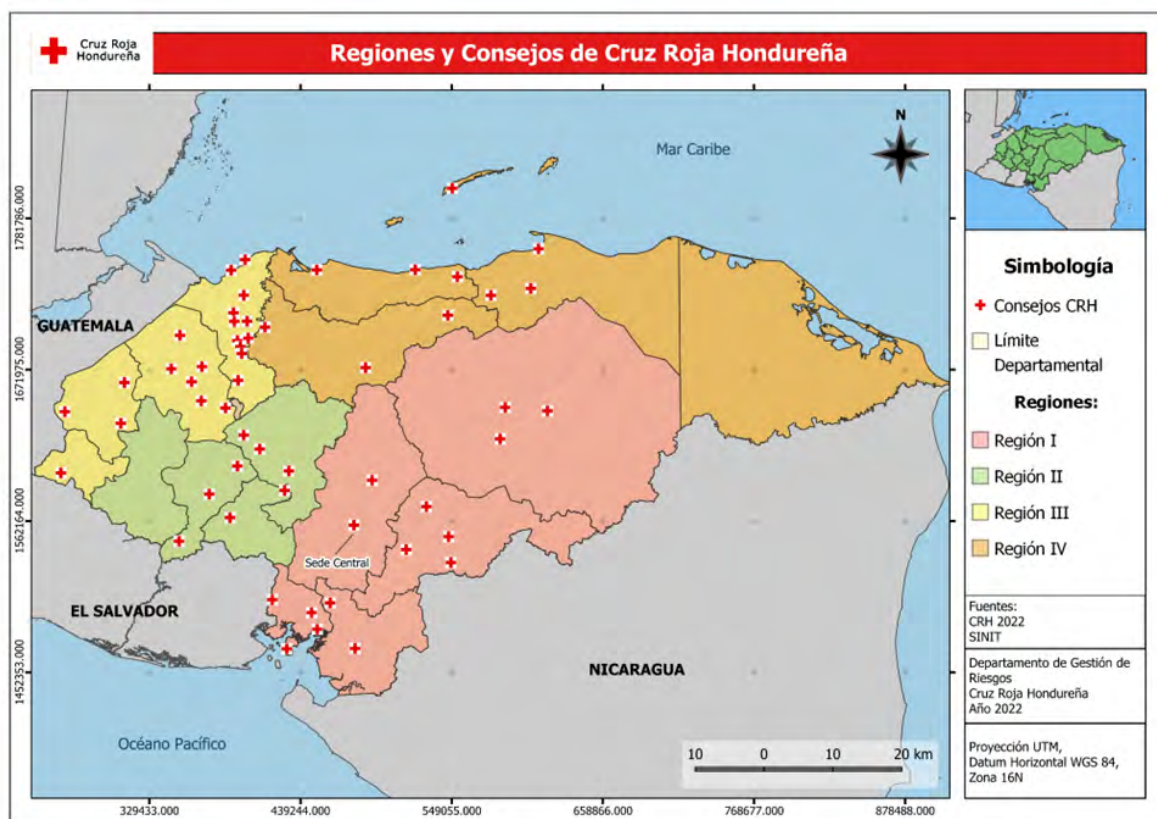
The Honduran Red Cross is present in 16 of the country's 18 departments, through 53 branches and more than 6,000 volunteers. The National Society is a key actor in crisis and disaster response, with the capacity to analyse and address the needs of people and communities affected by multiple hazards and acting as an agent for mobilizing urgent action and addressing climate and environmental crises. In 2022, the Honduran Red Cross assisted over 21,000 people migrating, and over 117,000 people affected by tropical storms.

The Honduran Red Cross, guided by the Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles, is dedicated to improving the quality of life for vulnerable populations. The Honduran

Red Cross National Development Plan 2021–2025 sets forth four key strategic objectives:

- Strengthening community resilience against crises, disasters, and emergencies
- Enhancing access to comprehensive and high-quality healthcare services
- Providing essential protection services to the most vulnerable communities
- Empowering individuals through the developmental programmes of the National Society

According to Honduras' National Risk Management Law, the Honduran Red Cross's role is to support the national disaster risk management system through technical assistance and coordination with public and private institutions to ensure effective mitigation, early action, response and recovery. The National Society and the IFRC have advocated for the approval of the International Disaster Relief Law (IDRL) in Honduras, the first of its kind to be adopted on the continent, to streamline an effective response to disasters and crises.



Location of the 53 branches of the Honduran Red Cross

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Honduras is a low-middle-income nation. However, poverty is widespread and more severe in rural areas. Remittances from abroad constitute one-third of household income. Honduras has a medium Human Development Index (0.634), which places it at 137th in the world for health, knowledge and standard of living, and in the Americas region, only above Haiti.

Honduras is navigating through a myriad of challenges, including natural hazards and political and social conflicts, which the COVID-19 pandemic, the effects of climate change, forced displacement and migration have intensified. These challenges have significantly impacted the population, with over 59 per cent living in poverty and 32 per cent in extreme poverty. As per the Honduras Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023, an estimated 3.2 million people are in need of assistance, including vulnerable groups such as women, children, adolescents, people on the move, indigenous and Afro-descendant people, people with disabilities, and LGBTIQ+ people.

According to UNICEF data, 44 per cent of children aged 3 to 17 in Honduras are not enrolled in school. Educational exclusion

is most prevalent among children in rural areas, those aged 3 to 5 years, and adolescents aged 12 to 14 years and 15 to 17 years. Economic constraints are the primary reason for not attending school, cited by 46 per cent of students in the third cycle of primary education.

The nation also grapples with a dire security situation, marked by one of the highest homicide rates in Latin America, primarily fueled by gang violence. Organized criminal activities further restrict mobility and limit access to essential services. Additionally, the country experiences a high rate of gender-based violence, putting women, children, and the LGBTIQ+ community at risk and contributing to the deepening of poverty, which affects nearly half of the population.

Within the intricate web of migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, Honduras stands out as both a source and a transit point for migrants. In 2023, the estimated number of people migrating through Honduras without formal documentation is 20 times more than in 2021 and triple the number reported in 2022.

This convergence of crises highlights the pressing need for integrated and sustainable solutions that address both immediate humanitarian needs and long-term development objectives, ensuring the well-being and dignity of all people in Honduras.



Almost 4,000 people cross the southern border of Honduras daily, where the Honduran Red Cross has a Humanitarian Service Point stationed to offer health and psychosocial support. 26th August 2023 (Photo: Honduran Red Cross)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Climate change has become a major challenge impacting health conditions, food security, access to safe water, and environmental security, especially for the most vulnerable and remote communities. The frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and droughts, have increased. For instance, Hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020 damaged around 70 per cent of the agricultural produce and affected more than 40 per cent of the population. These climate-induced disasters have not only caused immediate devastation but also long-term economic and social disruptions.

The agricultural sector, a cornerstone of Honduras' economy, is particularly susceptible to climate change. Predictions indicate that by 2025, maize production losses could amount to around 120,000 tons annually, with a valuation of USD 40 million. Additionally, total precipitation is projected to decrease significantly by 2090 in various departments, impacting essential crops like maize, beans, and coffee. This decrease in crop yields poses a significant threat to food security and livelihoods.

Environmental degradation in Honduras, including deforestation, land and soil degradation, and water misuse, exacerbates these challenges. Waste management and pollution are additional concerns that need urgent attention. The importance of developing and implementing effective strategies that can withstand and mitigate these impacts is paramount for the nation's sustainable development and the well-being of its communities.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Honduran Red Cross is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally-led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The Honduran Red Cross, guided by its National Plan, focuses on two primary objectives of creating urgent action on climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as adopting environmentally sustainable practices. These efforts would include conducting environmental impact assessments to shape effective strategies, and aligning with the Honduran government's climate goals.

Besides collaboration with state-run programmes the Honduran Red Cross' goal is to quantify and reduce emissions from fossil fuels, electricity, and solid waste. This involves conducting an energy audit of its 53 branches, in collaboration with the government Secretariat of Energy. Aiming for ecological recognition, the Honduran Red Cross plans to obtain the first star of the Ecological Flag programme for climate change by January 2024, and to expedite the acquisition of the second star within the same year.

The multi-year objectives of the National Society include:

- Developing sensitization and awareness activities on climate change issues for staff, expanding to volunteers and governing bodies as well as decision-makers and communities
- Strengthening the youth programme for the implementation of actions to raise awareness about climate change and environmental management
- Reducing emissions produced by the use and consumption of fossil fuels, consumption and use of electrical energy, and solid waste emissions
- Support institutional actions to address environmental protection and climate change alongside complementary actions aimed at complying with its related policy and strategy

Planned activities in 2024

- A curricular training program on climate change in coordination with the IFRC regional reference centre for Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) that includes a toolbox, facilitator's guides, and a system for diagnostic evaluation, training, performance, and impact
- Installation of solid waste collection and sorting stations in the 53 branches and auxiliary facilities of the Honduran Red Cross
- Creation of a network of young volunteers for the monitoring and evaluation of environmental and climate change policy and for the promotion of mobilization actions on climate change
- Implementation of actions and micro projects in climate change (renewable energy, energy efficiency, conservation of forests and ecosystems, solid waste, education and awareness, water management, sustainable agriculture, anticipatory actions)
- Creation of a climate change observatory to improve anticipatory action and response, including technological

equipment and manual measuring devices consisting of small devices to capture variables of temperature, precipitation and relative humidity captured from the Honduran Red Cross branches located in the different cardinal points

- Climate-smart projects (phase I) in the buffer area of the La Muralla refuge
- Exchange of successful experiences between volunteers from the four regions

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The Honduran Red Cross is part of the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership \(PPP\)](#) between the IFRC and the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) with implementation support from the Spanish Red Cross, the German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, and the IFRC. Through the ECHO PPP, the Honduran Red Cross is increasing the adaptive capacities of communities facing recurring risks. The National Society will continue to build capacity and to work with communities on climate-smart livelihoods and nature-based solutions.

The IFRC will provide multifaceted support to the Honduran Red Cross, focusing on climate change adaptation and community involvement. This includes collecting and analyzing

specific socio-behavioural data, community perceptions, and concerns about climate issues to tailor programme and project adaptations effectively. The Honduran Red Cross, with IFRC support, will also train staff and volunteers in community engagement, emphasizing behaviour change approaches for climate adaptation and integrating these into various tools. Additionally, the IFRC will offer technical support in implementing the Guide on Climate-Smart Operations and Programmes through technical visits, workshops, and advanced courses.

The **American Red Cross** will support the Honduran Red Cross by developing and strengthening its Climate Change Policy. This includes the 'Articulated Initiatives in Climate Change' project, aimed at integrating various climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. Additionally, the American Red Cross will support the 'Coastal Cities Resilience and Extreme Heat Action' (CoCHAP) project, focusing on enhancing resilience in coastal urban areas against climate-related challenges.

The **German Red Cross** will assist the Honduran Red Cross in designing its Environment and Climate Change Strategy, which includes a comprehensive toolkit, an indicator framework, and an action plan. The German Red Cross' support extends to the socialization and implementation of this Climate Change Strategy, ensuring that it is effectively communicated and integrated into the Honduran Red Cross's operations and initiatives.



Disasters and crises

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

Honduras' geographical position inevitably places it in the path of extreme weather events. People in Honduras are highly exposed to multiple hazards, such as hurricanes, floods, droughts, volcanos, and earthquakes, that combine to produce high levels of vulnerability. Regular disasters lead to extensive agricultural losses, affecting thousands of hectares of basic grains, and severely impacted production, infrastructure, water and sanitation, communications, and both land and air transportation.

Hydrometeorological events account for more than 50% of the natural hazards in Honduras. Floods and tropical storms have been particularly destructive, responsible for more than 80% of the losses in housing and posing the greatest threat to life. Approximately 45% of Honduran municipalities, especially those facing multi-hazard scenarios, are highly vulnerable to the impacts of natural hazards.

In addition, the capacity for improving preparedness, response, recovery, coping, and resilience at community, local, and national levels remain underdeveloped. There is a pressing need for enhanced regional coordination mechanisms to effectively manage these high levels of vulnerability and risk.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Honduran Red Cross, legally recognized as a key player in the National Risk Management System, is tasked with providing support and technical assistance for disaster risk management (DRM). This role includes coordinating with other public and private institutions to ensure effective mitigation, early action, response, and recovery from disasters and crises. The organization has actively advocated for the Law for the Facilitation of International Humanitarian Assistance in Disaster and Initial Recovery in Honduras. This legislation, the first in the Americas, is designed to speed up effective

response to disasters and crises, highlighting the crucial role of the Honduran Red Cross in crisis and disaster response.

The Honduran Red Cross is focused on developing adaptable preparedness plans, ensuring that its response is efficient, effective, and timely. The National Society is steadfast in responding effectively to a wide range of crises and disasters, maximizing its role in emergency relief.

The multi-year objectives of the National Society include:

- Supporting local communities in taking steps to increase their resilience to hazards including implementation of integrated and comprehensive programs with an early recovery approach
- Meeting affected people needs through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate, and flexible and strengthens your agency
- Work collaboratively with government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders to comprehensively assess and address the housing needs of those affected by adverse events
- Ensuring food security and livelihoods such that the sustenance needs of people are met through improved sources of income and multi-purpose cash grants
- Responding effectively to the broad spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and take advantage of their auxiliary role in emergency response

Planned activities in 2024

- Disseminate and awareness-raising campaigns to describe the relevant risks of hazards and climate change that the communities served are exposed to
- Develop simulation exercises, drills, and training scenarios to improve response capacity to different types of crises and disasters
- Train and mobilize volunteers to provide humanitarian assistance, psychological support and logistical support to affected people
- Create a subsidy fund for people affected by adverse events, so that they can cover expenses related to rent

and ensure their sustainability during the process of recovering their homes

- Deliver inputs (toolkit, plant kits and silo construction kits) to producers for livelihood recovery
- Improve and diversifying agricultural production of targeted families, with special attention to women, as a result of the use of improved inputs and the application of new climate-smart practices

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Under the global Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and with support from EU National Societies and the IFRC, the National Society is revising and updating anticipatory and contingency plans. Disaster risk management activities will primarily take place in the departments of El Paraíso and Cortes. With the support of the **German Red Cross**, the Honduran Red Cross will work with humanitarian response actors in El Paraíso to implement an Early Warning System (EWS) to respond to floods, EWS in at least five communities with greater exposure to drought, and provide training for community members. Simulations will be performed that will include cash and voucher assistance and distribution of hygiene kits.

The IFRC will support the Honduran Red Cross in expanding anticipatory actions for a range of emergencies. It will also assist the National Society in its provision of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to communities in critical interventions such as shelter, livelihoods, and food security.

The **American Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** are supporting the Honduran Red Cross in assisting communities in implementing small-scale mitigation, preparation, and adaptation measures and establishing community committees for effective humanitarian action. They are also supporting the Honduran Red Cross with enhancing comprehensive disaster risk management at both community and interinstitutional levels. The focus is on helping community organizations apply their acquired skills to reduce vulnerability to climate and health risks, particularly in the Danlí/El Paraíso region.



Health services in Honduras are insufficient to meet the needs of the population, with shortages in personnel, crumbling infrastructure and shortages of essential medicines and supplies. In Honduras, there are 16 health professionals for every 10,000 inhabitants, well below the 25/10,000 ratio established by international standards. One of the greatest challenges is reaching those with limited access due to geography or economics.

The health system in Honduras, burdened by multiple deficiencies, impacts the living conditions of vulnerable groups, including rural and marginal urban communities, children, women, the elderly, victims of violence, and the chronically ill. Public health spending is only 3 per cent of GDP, significantly below the WHO's recommended 6%, contributing to inequities in access to health services. Only 14% of the population is insured by the Honduran Social Security Institute. Determinants of health in Honduras are multifaceted. The absence of a comprehensive social protection system highlights the need for broader access to health and other social benefits, currently limited to a minority with social security.

Recent epidemics and natural hazards have further strained the fragile public health system. Essential health services, particularly in rural and underdeveloped areas, are lacking in several domains such as sexual and reproductive health, communicable diseases, chronic degenerative diseases, and child health and malnutrition. Honduras has several health policies and programs, including the National Health Model, National Gender Policy, and National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy. Still, the main issue is the effective implementation of these programs.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Since 1978, the Honduran Red Cross National Blood Programme has been the standard for blood quality in the country, and the only facility in Central America certified with the Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies, having been reaccredited for the ninth time in 2021. The National Blood Programme has state-of-the-art equipment with the capacity to detect HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis, Human T-lymphotropic virus I and II and Chagas, as well as the ability to produce blood products. The programme benefits approximately 160,000 patients annually who need blood products and currently processes and supplies 60 per cent of the demand for blood products nationwide.

In recent years, the Honduran Red Cross has led disease prevention projects in hard-to-reach rural areas, and programmes to improve safety for health service providers in contexts of social violence. In coordination with local,

regional, and national Ministry of Health authorities, the National Society supports health authorities by strengthening community structures for improving health and providing WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) services, as well as pre-hospital care and blood bank services. In response to the COVID-19 emergency, the Honduran Red Cross supported pre-hospital service by installing specially equipped ambulances for the transfer of patients with suspected or confirmed cases. Additionally the National Society has diversified its mental health and psychosocial support services, which have been adapted to the continually changing country contexts. Face-to-face activities are complemented by telehealth services, increasing the reach to people with limited access to in-person.

The multi-year objectives of the National Society include:

- Leveraging its auxiliary role to secure the National Society's position in relevant platforms and mechanisms of public health strategy, advocacy, and policy at the country level
- Protecting and improving the health and well-being of communities through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services throughout life
- Maintaining the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks by providing access to appropriate health services
- Ensuring that communities have greater access to affordable, appropriate and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in emergencies
- Train for emergency response personnel on WASH issues alongside improving logistical infrastructures relevant to WASH interventions and equipment

Planned activities in 2024

- Establish emergency management services in the most difficult communities, including volunteer staff trained in first aid, basic kits, and means of transportation and transfer of patients (especially obstetric emergencies)
- Consult for the development of a strategy to address issues of sexual and gender-based violence, including referrals for comprehensive care, awareness campaigns, training plan and purchase of equipment and supplies for the care of victims for health personnel
- Strengthen the Department of Health with specialists in different areas: community health, epidemiology, nutrition, mental health, sexual and reproductive health

- Install psychosocial and mental health support services in health facilities and branches
- Strengthen the referral system from the community level to health facilities, using technological applications as much as possible
- Embolden the community health response capacities of the branches through community health and first aid workshops aimed at staff and volunteers
- Promote voluntary and altruistic blood donations through communication and awareness plans, recognition of donors, public advocacy with key actors, and mobile and fixed units

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In August 2023, the IFRC provided a [Disaster Response Emergency Fund](#) allocation in support of the National Society's assistance to up to 12,000 people in a dengue outbreak. The Honduran Red Cross is supporting the communities in the Comayagua area over a five-month period with over CHF 300,000 in funding from the IFRC's DREF.

Under the global [Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and with support from EU National Societies and the IFRC, the Honduran Red Cross is working to improve and scale up community-led health initiatives that respond

to epidemics and pandemics. Based on the results of a recent health context analysis, the National Society will carry out hygiene promotion campaigns that include distributing hygiene kits to help reduce the spread of waterborne and vector-borne diseases, especially in communities affected by hurricanes. Nutritional screening will be added to community-based surveillance, and tools for communities to prepare for, monitor and respond to health risks will be aligned with those offered by government agencies and other partners.

The **Canadian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross** collaborate with the Honduran Red Cross to develop emergency response plans for epidemics and disasters, and to acquire equipment and supplies for implementing these plans in conjunction with health establishments. A strategy for WASH in emergencies will be developed, and water rescue units will be formed and equipped. Some participating National Societies, as part of the Programmatic Partnership in 2023, have supported the enhancement of the health infrastructure and access to essential resources. Their support is critical in strengthening the role of the Honduran Red Cross in improving health access for violence-affected populations through community health strategies, epidemiological surveillance, and attention to sexual and gender-based violence victims.

The **ICRC** is also supporting the Honduran Red Cross to address the psychological and psychosocial needs of its staff and volunteers in central and northern areas, including Tegucigalpa.



Migration and displacement

The migratory context in Honduras is complex. There are many drivers for migration and displacement: insecurity and violence, persistent poverty, lack of educational and economic opportunities, and poor housing and health conditions. These are exacerbated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and Hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020. It is a country of origin and return for the national migrant population and a transit country for many extra-regional and extra-continental migrants, especially from the Caribbean, South America and Africa.

Although the entry of irregular migrants is regulated by the National Migration Institute, the roughly 950-kilometre border between Honduras and Nicaragua is frequently crossed by migrants at unauthorized points, especially in the departments of El Paraiso and Choluteca, with the number increasing. As of September 2023, the National Migration Institute (INM) reports 330,546 irregular migrants in transit.

This has produced a migratory challenge, a priority for government authorities and organizations that comprise the Humanitarian Country Team. A significant number of migrants in transit remain in the border areas between Honduras and Nicaragua due to administrative provisions limiting irregular entry, lack of money for the costs of entering regularly, or other circumstances linked to health or finances. The National Congress approved the Migratory Amnesty Law, which exempts migrants from paying a fine for entering the country in an irregular condition. Those who do not have the resources to continue their journey opt to enter the informal economy or begging, increasing the risk of suffering violence or discrimination.

Widespread violence is the leading cause of internal displacement in Honduras, driven by organized gangs (maras) involved in territorial disputes and drug trafficking. Data from

the National Commissioner for Human Rights of Honduras indicate that in 2020, the departments most affected were Francisco Morazan and Cortes, especially San Pedro Sula, where citizens face direct threats, extortion and intra-family, sexual and domestic violence. There is increased vulnerability to internal displacement for migrant women and their families, due to lack of knowledge about their rights and economic exclusion, which result in increased situations of poverty.

While violence may be a cause of migration and internal displacement, it is also a threat along migratory routes, affecting the physical, emotional and family integrity of irregular migrants. Human smuggling and trafficking occur, along with gender-based, which disproportionately affects the most vulnerable populations such as women, children, LGBTQI+, indigenous persons and the elderly.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Since 2011, the Honduran Red Cross has researched and developed migration-related programming in various parts of the country, including protection of and assistance to departing or returning Honduran migrants, migrants in transit, internally displaced persons and people in refugee status. Volunteers and staff are trained in migration-related issues, and there are defined methods for identifying and referring those needing protection. The National Society has a policy on people on the move, and is creating a specific migration strategy with corresponding action plan.

The Honduran Red Cross Migration Board was created as a coordination and cooperation mechanism to advise on programmes and response activities, and to advocate for support for people on the move. The National Society actively participates in national and international platforms working with migrants and displaced persons. It regularly coordinates with the Ministry of Foreign Relations and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Health and the National Migration Institute. It is recognized as an important part of the national dialogue.

The Honduran Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes. The programme is built on three operational pillars: improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; strengthening National Society capacities; and local to global humanitarian diplomacy. In addition, the multi-year high level objectives of the National Society include:

- Ensuring migrants and displaced people have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migration routes, as well as access to durable solutions where appropriate.

- Engaging with migrants, displaced persons, and host communities to assess, understand, and respond more effectively to their priority needs

Planned activities in 2024

- Distribution of 2,000 differentiated hygiene kits at humanitarian service points that serve transit flows
- Acquisition of one humanitarian service point mobile unit
- Distribution of 2,000 liters of safe water at humanitarian service points for the population in transit and for the returnee population
- Distribution of 1,500 food kits (raw food rations, travel snacks) at humanitarian service points for assistance to the population in transit and for the returnee population
- Acquiring hygiene and biosecurity kits for distribution to mobile populations at the border and other [humanitarian service points](#)
- Purchasing and distributing drinking water to mobile populations
- Distributing food aid for mobile populations – these include route kits, snacks/prepared food, and unprepared food for temporary shelters
- Developing protection measures for returned migrants, migrants in transit, persons displaced by violence, refugees and caravans
- Promotion of the [Red Safe](#), a digital humanitarian platform, and safe referral services including distribution of 1,000 self-care messages aimed at the population of interest through the Red Safe platform
- Development of training and awareness-raising processes on the rights of migrant populations aimed at selected communities of transit and permanent or temporary shelter, to facilitate processes of inclusion and respect for rights

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Honduran Red Cross to:

- Roll out its migration strategy, fostering regional coordination to address the cross-border migration phenomena in Central America
- Build its capacities by developing tools and training, and providing technical support, including the development and proper maintenance of national and regional information management systems for migratory flows
- Establish and expand the range of services available at humanitarian services points in key locations along

migratory routes, to support migrants' access to comprehensive needs-appropriate assistance

- Ensure that assistance and protection services are provided and promoted through engagement with local and national authorities, host communities and affected people, as well as with the ICRC, other organizations and donors
- Use of discrimination-free culturally appropriate information that builds in the National Society's assistance and protection services, promotes voluntary access to comprehensive services, and ensures migrants receive proper information on their legal rights
- Access global, regional and local analysis on current and emerging trends, anticipating population movement when possible, to support National Society's information-based programming
- Conduct humanitarian diplomacy with national and international actors regarding migration and host community interventions, based on evidence

At the regional level, the IFRC will support training on humanitarian diplomacy in migration, implementation of a regional dashboard monitoring migrants flow, and a study on humanitarian service points.

Under the global [Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and with support from EU National Societies and the IFRC, the Spanish Red Cross will support the Honduran Red Cross to pilot a database model to identify local triggers that could be predictors of migration or displacement. Humanitarian assistance to people on the move will continue as core work of the National Society, increasing the services provided by the Honduran Red Cross at humanitarian service points, and the National Society's capacity to refer to partner institutions.

The **Swiss Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, German Red Cross**, are supporting the Honduran Red Cross in identifying needs and responding to mobile populations by providing a coordinated humanitarian response to the needs of mobile populations. Their involvement extends to needs assessment, monitoring, best practice evaluation and systematization within the global [Programmatic Partnership](#). This includes the pre-positioning of humanitarian supplies and the operationalization of humanitarian service points at assembly points.

The ICRC is helping restore family links through identifying and caring for migrants in need of protection and internally displaced persons.



Values, power and inclusion

According to the Violence Observatory of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, homicide rates increased 22.1 per cent from 2021 to 2022. The infiltration of organized crime and gangs into politics and public institutions, including the public safety sector, has played a determining role in the [deterioration of citizen security](#). Human Rights Council data indicates that those most at risk of violence are between the ages of 14 and 40, with additional vulnerabilities for women, children, the LGBTQI+ community, people on the move and people living with disabilities.

In Honduras, 3.3 million people, or 56 per cent of the working age population, were unemployed and/or underemployed. According to the United National Children's Fund (UNICEF) data, 44 per cent of children between the ages of three and 17 are out of school, nearly half of that being children from rural areas. The main causes of attrition at the secondary level are lack of the economic resources needed to continue, the need to work to support family, and perception that a secondary school degree does not lead to better employment. Nationally, less than 50 per cent of students meet educational benchmarks for mathematics, and less than 40 per cent for reading. At the beginning of 2023, there was an enrollment of 350,000

children, leaving 1.2 million out of the system, although the projection of the Ministry of Education was 2.5 million.

Vulnerable groups suffer not only differential impacts of compounded crises but also face additional barriers to access adequate assistance and protection mechanisms. Regulatory frameworks are lacking to protect these population or respond to their needs. Gender inequalities may be more pronounced in rural or indigenous communities, resulting in limited access to basic services, resources, economic opportunities and livelihoods, as well as increased vulnerability to violence, especially sexual and gender-based. There continues to be a gender gap in organizational and political participation.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Aligned with the National Development Plan, the Honduran Red Cross's focus in this strategic priority encompasses three main areas: social development, human mobility, and Restoring Family Links. This holistic approach integrates efforts from various sectors of the National Society and collaborates with external experts to enhance the impact and capabilities of the Honduran Red Cross.

Key to the Honduran Red Cross's plan are policies like the National Policy for the Prevention, Mitigation, and Response to Violence and the Policy on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, along with their guiding principles. These policies prioritize establishing a reference framework with standard indicators and expanding programme coverage to better the lives of individuals and communities in Honduras. The Honduran Red Cross actively seeks partnerships with interested stakeholders to achieve these goals.

A comprehensive regulatory framework is being developed to foster social inclusion and address social exclusion conditions. This framework takes a holistic approach, emphasizing developing and recovering livelihoods for populations affected by social exclusion. In parallel, there is a focus on analyzing social inequalities and factors of social exclusion that impact populations affected by violence, disasters, and similar adversities. This includes conducting specialized studies on relevant topics. Additionally, the information system detailing the services provided by the Honduran Red Cross is under analysis to facilitate more assertive and informed decision-making.

The multi-year objectives of the National Society include:

- Developing training and awareness-raising processes on rights, values and citizenship aimed at the selected communities with a special focus on children and their networks
- Contributing to positive change in communities through increased understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values, with a special focus on the knowledge, skills, and behavior of young people
- Developing the Honduras Red Cross normative framework on social development, along with its policy, strategy, action plan and standard indicators, mechanisms, and case management.
- Promoting and supporting safe, equitable and continuous access to quality education for all, especially children affected by disasters, crises, or displacement
- Implementing micro-projects for the improvement of educational spaces with a focus on protection and inclusion
- Empowering individuals and communities, vulnerable and affected by crises, to influence decisions that affect them and rely on the IFRC network to serve their best interests

Planned activities in 2024

- Train communities on rights, values, citizenship, and other related issues
- Develop awareness-raising campaigns on the rights of LGBTIQ+ people and other vulnerable populations
- Form youth networks in the communities to channel their knowledge and enhance their capacities
- Revision and updating of the existing complaint mechanism and complaint procedure, and development of protocols for attention and referral of cases
- Execute infrastructure microprojects in educational spaces with a focus on protection

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support trainings for National Society staff and volunteers, development of systems and tools, and definition of communication channels within communities. This will allow the Honduran Red Cross to further integrate mechanisms to foster safe, accessible and equitable participation of communities, scale up feedback mechanisms and make community engagement approaches part of standard operating procedures across all targeted sites targeted. The IFRC will support the production of case studies and of a regional dashboard that includes the National Society's projects and data.

Under the global Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and building on actions carried out in communities during the inception phase, the **Spanish Red Cross** will support the Honduran Red Cross in updating and adapting existing community engagement and accountability procedures to be more strategic, developing policies, plans and standardized guidelines.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supports the Honduran Red Cross through PAO SUR II Project, focusing on two key results. First, empowering children and adolescents to apply their knowledge and skills for the development and inclusion within their communities. Secondly, community-based organizations and local institutional actors work together to promote inclusive community development.

The ICRC is contributing to strengthening the Honduran Red Cross in protection by providing training and exercises based on the Minimum Protection Approach Framework. This initiative aims to bolster the capabilities of the Honduran Red Cross in offering effective protection and support to those in need. The ICRC will also continue to support the Honduran Red Cross in strengthening its Restoring Family Links programme.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

The Honduran Red Cross is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC's Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2013 and 2019. It achieved its OCAC certification in 2022, demonstrating that it commits and complies with a comprehensive set of organizational minimum standards. Granted by the IFRC governing board, the OCAC certification has a validity of five years.

The Honduran Red Cross is also committed to the IFRC Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyse the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism, and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.

The National Society is constantly developing and strengthening all its processes, systems, programs, institutional human talent, coordination, and cooperation with members of the Movement and other external actors, to achieve its strategic objectives proposed in its [National Development Plan 2021–2025](#) and thus fulfil its humanitarian mandate, with the most vulnerable people as its supreme goal.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Honduran Red Cross will continue to expand its strategic alliances among the Movement's components, national, regional, and global external actors to share knowledge, learn from each other and align actions for joint problem solving and achieve greater collective impact. Likewise, to enhance its auxiliary role to the public authorities in humanitarian actions, it will promote local, national, and international policy changes to ensure compliance with the main international commitments and their positive effects on communities.

The Honduran Red Cross seeks to strengthen the self-sustainability of the National Society, through the development and implementation of the resource mobilization strategy to adapt the diversification of business lines, online donations and, simultaneously, strengthening financial and accounting management for comprehensive accountability. In this sense, efforts will continue to strengthen its organizational capacities, the mobilization of unrestricted resources that allow new investments, and business models at the central level and in the branches, which strengthen the financial sustainability of the National Society and thus achieve a greater impact locally.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will facilitate the participation of the Honduran Red Cross in national and global coordination mechanisms, such as global task forces and inter-institutional groups. The IFRC will also focus on capacity-building for shelter coordination, involving training for National Society personnel in shelter-related areas and collaboration with the interagency Humanitarian Country Team to position the Honduran Red Cross as a leading organization in shelter coordination during disasters. Additionally, the National Society will restructure its resource mobilization department with technical advice, peer support, and business planning guidance. The IFRC will also support the National Society in utilising the fundraising platforms to enhance its digital fundraising capabilities.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Honduran Red Cross is actively implementing its National Development Plan for 2021-2025, which outlines its organisational priorities. The National Society emphasizes volunteerism and youth engagement for behavioural change and local initiatives, prioritizing trust, and access in various contexts. It is also redefining its approach to volunteering to be more inclusive and responsive to current and future needs.

At the branch level, performance assessment tools such as IFRC BOCA (Branch Organisational Capacity Assessment) will continue to be used to measure progress and inform improvement plans. The Honduran Red Cross is committed to updating its human talent management policy and strategy to achieve both quantitative and qualitative results. This includes implementing a career succession process and providing incentives for staff development through training, job rotation, knowledge exchange with other National Societies, mentoring, and coaching of managers and directors. Additionally, efforts will be made to strengthen the dissemination of the Movement's doctrine and enhance the management of human talent data.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Honduran Red Cross in several key areas including strengthening the use of the Inter-American Volunteer Development Center (ICVD) services, focusing on its five main tools to boost volunteer development within the National Society. These tools encompass utilizing the Volunteer Development Platform (VODPLA), engaging National Society members in the expert network, and participating in knowledge-sharing spaces. Additionally, personalized assistance will be provided to enhance volunteer protection and well-being systems.

The support extends to facilitating the participation of youth delegates in the IFRC General Assembly and statutory meetings, promoting learning and sharing best practices within the IFRC network, and encouraging the use of IFRC funds to align with the National Society's strategic priorities for development. Support will also be provided to foster the National Society's participation in competency development processes within current and potential leadership roles, promoting the identification of National Society development best practices within the National Society for broader dissemination within the network, and assisting in the completion of the IFRC Working with Project Partners (WWPP) process at the Honduran Red Cross.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Honduran Red Cross will continue to promote humanitarian diplomacy actions at all levels and with different sectors, to influence laws, and establish regional work plans to promote priority issues.

Furthermore, prioritizing internal and external communication remains paramount for the National Society, as it contributes to strengthening the Honduran Red Cross brand. The ongoing implementation of its communication strategy is aimed at fostering greater trust and comprehension among all stakeholders, whether existing or potential, regarding the

National Society's role in the country. This, in turn, will facilitate resource mobilization and enable the delivery of humanitarian services to the communities in need during crises..

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical support to the Honduran Red Cross to revise its advocacy strategies and action plans, which may include specific workshops and stakeholder mapping. The focus will be on promoting the national implementation of global and regional commitments (e.g., resolutions, and declarations). Furthermore, IFRC will organize training sessions on humanitarian diplomacy and the auxiliary role of the Honduran Red Cross, along with a regional workshop involving Central American National Societies in humanitarian diplomacy.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society aims to improve workforce skills for effective program, operation, and service management in line with humanitarian principles, involving policy updates and enhancing its integral training centre's capabilities at all levels. The Honduran Red Cross is dedicated to improving accountability and financial stability. This includes implementing accounting tools at branch levels, updating administrative processes, strengthening staff capacities, and updating anti-fraud and risk management policies to enhance governance.

Addressing the country's security challenges is crucial, focusing on the safety of personnel, institutional perception, and assets. This involves ongoing implementation of comprehensive security policies, strategies, and training to foster a strong security culture.

Additionally, the National Society is undergoing a [digital transformation](#) to adapt to evolving contexts, focusing on six aspects: people, data, agile processes, technology, innovation, and digital identity and governance. The strategy aims for agile decision-making, service quality enhancement,

and collaboration with digitally advanced National Societies, necessitating investments and cultural shifts for successful digital transformation.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC facilitates the entire annual unified planning process of the National Society, starting from the initial stages to the approval of the internal plan. Additionally, the IFRC conducts training sessions and provides mentorship on topics related to Results-Based Management (RBM). It offers technical support in establishing systems and streamlining the collection of national-level data pertaining to the implementation of the unified plan. Furthermore, it assists in the development of standardized reports based on programmatic and operational commitments. Lastly, the IFRC ensures the execution of high-quality evaluations and reviews in accordance with the IFRC Evaluation Framework, further enhancing the Honduran Red Cross' capabilities and effectiveness.

With support from the **Italian Red Cross** and the **ICRC**, the Honduran Red Cross is implementing security strategies and frameworks. This is achieved through initiatives like the ICRC framework for safer access and the 'Security Pilot' programmes.



The Honduran Red Cross provides support to migrants including Restoring Family Links (RFL), health, and psychosocial support among others at the Humanitarian Service Point, 26th August 2023. (Photo: Honduran Red Cross)

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC is represented by its cluster delegation for Central America in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and operates with an extended team of specialists in different areas in all Central American countries. This enables close support, coordination and constant communication with the National Societies of Central America and the participating National Societies that support them. The IFRC support centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development, and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

The IFRC's technical support includes integral National Society development, as well as disaster risk management, health, WASH, people on the move, cash transfer programming,

and community engagement and accountability. In recent years, the IFRC has supported the National Society through a number of Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) and Emergency Appeal operations in relation to tropical storms and hurricanes, floods, droughts, fires, disease outbreaks, civil unrest and population movement. In 2023, the IFRC approved three new DREF Early Action Protocols to support the National Society in providing early assistance to communities affected by drought, population movement and flood emergencies. The protocols are meant to be in place for five years, with the early action timeframe comprising three months. The funding allocations are made from the anticipatory pillar of the IFRC DREF.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership 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 efforts to reinforce the auxiliary role of National Societies in their respective countries.

The National Society is part of the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between DG ECHO and the IFRC, with implementation support from the **Spanish Red Cross** as lead EU National Society, and from the **German Red Cross** and **Italian Red Cross** for activities in the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, humanitarian assistance and protection for people on the move, cash and voucher assistance and risk communication, and community engagement and accountability. The partnership meets the realities of extended crises with longer-term predictable funding, facilitating actions and processes with the potential for greater, longer-term impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities, and it helps to fulfil the ambitions of the European Union as the world's largest international donor for humanitarian assistance.

The following participating National Societies provide bilateral support to the Honduran Red Cross:

The **American Red Cross** has been actively engaged with the Honduran Red Cross throughout this century. Currently, the American Red Cross has outlined a climate initiative with a focus on urban resilience, youth leadership in climate change, and anticipatory actions. Given Honduras' vulnerability to climate change impacts, the American Red Cross plans to strengthen its presence and support in the country by establishing an office in Honduras. One significant initiative is the development of the Honduran Red Cross Environmental and Climate Change Policy, which received financial support from the American Red Cross. This policy outlines how the National Society will adapt and reduce emissions and was formalized through a Letter of Understanding between the two National Societies.

Another important project is the Climate Change Adaptation Project which is tailored to the country's specific needs and the National Society's role in achieving climate goals and sustainable development objectives. Additionally, there is the Coastal Cities Resilience and Extreme Heat Actions Project (Co-CHAP), which is supported by an agreement and operates in several cities.

The **Canadian Red Cross** has been working with the Honduran Red Cross for 16 years, supporting a variety of initiatives, from community health, to disaster preparedness and response, to

violence prevention and community resilience. From 2020 to 2022 efforts were coordinated to prevent and respond to the COVID-19 health crises through two projects, strengthening community capacity to prevent COVID-19 and reduce stigma, and strengthening emergency health services to respond to the pandemic with a specialization in emergency health services for mobile populations. In parallel, the Strengthening Health in Emergencies project (2021-2022) built National Society capacities to manage the health response after Hurricanes Eta and Iota, transitioning ownership of the Emergency Response Unit from the Canadian Red Cross to the Honduran Red Cross at the beginning of 2022. Gender components are integrated throughout health programming.

A five-year cooperation agreement from 2023 to 2024 provides flexible funds for the Honduran Red Cross to invest in line with its strategic priorities outlined in the National Development Plan for 2021-2025. This partnership may extend beyond five years, and in-kind contributions, including valuable technical support, are also considered.

The **German Red Cross** maintains a regional office in Honduras, staffed with specialists in various critical areas, such as information management, climate change, anticipation, communication, capacity building, early warning systems, migration, and cash transfers. This partnership between the German Red Cross and the Honduran Red Cross has been ongoing since the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch in 1998.

The primary emphasis of support to the Honduran Red Cross lies in disaster risk reduction, encompassing strategies to prevent new disaster risks, mitigate existing ones, and effectively manage any remaining risks. This focus is interconnected with various sub-areas of action. One critical aspect is climate change adaptation, where the German Red Cross fosters collaboration with the National Society to develop climate change resilience programmes tailored to local communities as well as to enhance its disaster response capacities. Additionally, the German Red Cross offers technical support in migration to the Honduran Red Cross for the implementation of humanitarian service points. These aim to reduce risks related to health, hygiene, mental well-being, first aid, medical care, and protection along migratory routes.

The **Italian Red Cross** has more than 20 years of cooperation relationship with the Honduran Red Cross. Its main support is value-added expertise in disaster preparedness, risk management and adaptation to climate change, which contributes to improving the National Society's capacity to respond to crisis and disaster, as well as to ensure the environmental sustainability of activities. The Italian Red Cross has been actively engaged in supporting the Honduran Red Cross through various long-term projects. These include the Expanding Opportunities (PAO) project, a 14-year intervention, and the fight against stigma and non-discrimination of people

living with HIV-AIDS project in the North Atlantic area of Honduras. Over nine years, the Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Project (PRRACC) has been implemented in four phases, focusing on community strengthening to address vulnerability to floods and landslides in the Ulla River basin. Additionally, there is a project in 2022 to improve humanitarian response for migrant populations in Honduras, specifically the BELEN Returnee Migrant Care Centre. The Italian Red Cross is currently developing an initiative to strengthen the Honduran Red Cross' capacities at the national level in response and water rescue.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** started its multinational work with the Honduran Red Cross and Finnish Red Cross in 2010. In 2012, the Norwegian Red Cross signed an agreement to work bilaterally with the Honduran Red Cross through to address broader projects on disaster risk management, health and violence prevention (which has matured developed mitigation of the humanitarian consequences of violence). From 2015 to 2017, three bilateral projects were developed: 1) risk reduction in urban environments, 2) mitigation of the humanitarian consequences of violence and 3) health care in danger, all funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Norwegian Red Cross' current and future work in Honduras is detailed in the Norwegian Red Cross International Strategy 2021-2023, focussing mainly on health and access to health in municipalities affected by social violence in the departments of Francisco Morazán, Cortés, Atlántida and Yoro. The Norwegian Red Cross supports the enhancement of operational safety and the quality of care across all Honduran Red Cross branches nationwide. Also, support for financial development is also being considered.

The **Spanish Red Cross** has had a permanent delegation in the country since 1998 in response to Hurricane Mitch. The Spanish Red Cross focuses on technical support to Honduran Red Cross for increasing the reach, quality, and impact of its activities as a local responder in its auxiliary role. The goal is to be more efficient in early response, and to better abilities in disaster response management and emergency response, as was seen with Hurricanes Eta and Iota. With the support of the Spanish Red Cross, the Honduran Red Cross provides cash and vouchers assistance to displaced people and vulnerable migrants, as well as psychosocial support, WASH activities and livelihoods interventions.




















The Spanish Red Cross works under a gender-based approach and integrates environmental sustainability into its strategies. They are supporting the decentralized model of the Honduran Red Cross, strengthening first responders within the four regions of the National Society, which allowed for a quick and efficient response during Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

The **Swiss Red Cross** initiated its humanitarian efforts in Honduras in 1999 in response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch in October 1998. Initially, humanitarian aid projects were launched, followed by rehabilitation and reconstruction initiatives in various departments in close collaboration with the Honduran Red Cross. Since 2004, the programme has shifted its focus towards long-term development, commencing health and disaster risk management projects with a strong community-oriented approach in Choluteca and Olancho departments, where it remains active. Throughout the years, the Swiss Red Cross has consistently adhered to the “humanitarian continuum” by

emphasizing linking relief, rehabilitation, and development, bridging the gap between security and development. This approach has enabled responses to multiple humanitarian emergencies stemming from hurricanes, tropical storms, droughts, and epidemics.

The 2021-2024 programme is structured around three core pillars: disaster risk management, community health, and National Society development. This transition involves a shift in the management model, with the Swiss Red Cross taking on a role of technical and financial support, including the physical presence of the delegation. The transition began in the first half of 2021 and is ongoing.

Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
American Red Cross	89,000						
Canadian Red Cross Society	131,000						
German Red Cross	652,000						
Italian Red Cross	150,000						
Norwegian Red Cross	861,000						
Spanish Red Cross	1.2M						
Swiss Red Cross	1.2M						

Total Funding requirement

4.3M

Movement coordination

The IFRC conducts regular coordination meetings with participating National Societies and the ICRC, through established national and regional mechanisms. It also coordinates humanitarian assistance during emergency responses. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The **ICRC** marked a decade of permanent presence in Honduras in 2022. Its aim is to address the humanitarian challenges faced by migrants and internally displaced persons, people deprived of their liberty, families of missing persons and victims of violence. ICRC support to Honduras is covered by its regional delegation in Mexico.

Coordination with other actors

The Honduran Red Cross works in close collaboration with local and national authorities and other humanitarian organizations for a coordinated response. It is a member of the National Civil Protection System. Local and departmental government authorities are actively involved in all operations undertaken by the National Society to ensure they complement and work in alignment with public policies and response plans in emergencies. As first responders to natural disasters and extreme weather events, the National Society plays a key role in the coordination of other humanitarian actors acting at the local level, and coordination with national levels of civil protection.

The Honduran Red Cross plays a key role as auxiliary to the public health systems in the areas of primary health, outreach to vulnerable communities and pre-hospital care. The National Society coordinates with the Ministry of Health to prioritize the location of interventions, and implement health activities in communities and with health personnel that align with national health guidelines. During COVID-19 operations, the National Society coordinated with the Ministry of Health to implement prevention measures. The IFRC assisted emergency operation centres leading the response, in collaboration with government institutions, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). To ensure adequate communication and collaboration with all key stakeholders involved in the response to COVID-19, the National Society held regular technical coordination meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Health, WHO and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) at the national level.

The Honduran Red Cross, together with the IFRC, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, play an active role in the Humanitarian Information Network for Latin America and the Caribbean, a multi-stakeholder coordination space led by OCHA. The National Society participates in the WASH, Shelter, Health, Early Recovery and Protection Clusters. The IFRC is the lead for the Shelter Cluster in Honduras. The Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) is an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) coordination mechanism and IFRC has been leading the shelter cluster in disaster contexts since the establishment of the cluster approach in 2005. This critical mandate places IFRC as one of the lead agencies in the international humanitarian

coordination system. IFRC leverages its leadership position in the shelter cluster for improved coordination, stronger policies and standards across the sector, and better support for affected people in their recovery. The Global Shelter Cluster enables better coordination among all shelter actors, including local and national governments, to provide help and shelter assistance faster, with the right kind of support.

The National Society also participates in national roundtables on child protection, migration, health and WASH, and has been the lead coordinator for these spaces at different times. The Honduran Red Cross takes part in the cash and vouchers assistance working group at the country level, and has made advances pre-positioning for cash distribution with the private sector.

The cross-border phenomenon of migration and displacement requires coordination both within and between countries to maintain the humanitarian chain of assistance that delivers urgent protection services to migrants, people in transit, returnees and displaced persons. In-country and regional coordination involves international organizations including the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, Médecins Sans Frontières, the Norwegian Refugee Council, Doctors of the World and Save the Children. The Honduran Red Cross plays an essential role in the National Protection Roundtable, led by the Ministry of Human Rights, where the ICRC and international NGOs participate. The National Society and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish the Honduran Red Cross as the administrator of the assistance centre for returned migrants in the town of Omoa.

The Honduran Red Cross also maintains relationships with other international actors. Municipal emergency response committees are supported by the Swiss Cooperation Office. The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation supports efforts to care for populations displaced by violence or returnees. Effort to support children affected by the consequences of migration receive support from UNICEF, and the Interamerican Development Bank provided funds to strengthen hospital capacity for responding to COVID-19, among other activities.



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.

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](#)

This plan reflects the priorities of the Honduran Red Cross, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2024 and subsequent years. It is aligned with [IFRC Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process, and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

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