



KYRGYZSTAN

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

12 February 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 22.4M**

In support of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan



46

National Society branches



295

National Society staff



3,282

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



12,000

Climate and environment



11,000

Disasters and crises



13,000

Health and wellbeing



100

Migration and displacement



102,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- recurring disasters
- social vulnerabilities
 - health needs
- population movement
- climate change adaptation

Capacity development

- communications and resource mobilisation
 - internal systems strengthening
- organizational development and sustainability

Key country data

Population

6.8M

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

low

Human Development Index rank

118

Population below poverty level

33.3%

Funding requirements

2024

2025**

2026**

Total 9.2M CHF

Total 7.8M CHF

Total 5.4M CHF

Through the IFRC



Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



Through the IFRC



Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



Through Participating National Societies



Host National Society



**Projected funding requirements

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

426,000 CHF
Climate and environment

1.2M CHF
Disasters and crises

164,000 CHF
Health and wellbeing

36,000 CHF
Migration and displacement

49,000 CHF
Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

- British Red Cross*
- German Red Cross
- Italian Red Cross
- Kuwait Red Crescent
- Qatar Red Crescent
- Spanish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross
- Turkish Red Crescent
- Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:
MAAKG002

Hazards



Heat waves / cold waves



Floods



Landslides



Earthquakes



Conflict and violence



Population movement

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan** is the leading local humanitarian organization in Kyrgyzstan and was established in 1926. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in its current form in 1997. Its auxiliary role is currently regulated by the 2018 [National Law on the Red Crescent of Kyrgyzstan](#), and by [national implementation of international humanitarian law](#). It cooperates with the Government's Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration, Ministry of Health, and the State Agency for Youth Affairs.

The National Society continually promotes and supports its network of volunteers who provide daily social services across the country, respond to emergencies, and support communities to build their resilience to various shocks and hazards. In recent years, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has responded to multiple disasters and crises, such as cold and heat waves, floods, earthquakes, population movement and disease outbreaks. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has been actively involved in preparedness and prevention activities across the country, working closely with the Ministry of Health and Social Development, World Health Organization, and other partners. In 2022, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan

reached a total of 24,000 people through its long-term services and development programmes. It also reached 84,270 people in the same year by disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.

According to its [Strategic Development Plan 2022-2026](#), the National Society's four strategic aims are to:

- Contribute to disaster risk reduction by strengthening the capacity of communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, and by providing timely and effective assistance to affected populations
- Contribute to a decrease in the morbidity and mortality of the population by promoting a healthy lifestyle, preventing infectious and non-infectious diseases, and supporting social behaviour change activities
- Contribute to improving the quality of life of vulnerable groups within the population by developing an inclusive society, providing a set of necessary services aimed at meeting the social needs of key groups, and influencing the social behaviour of people
- Ensure the sustainable and comprehensive development of the National Society through ongoing and comprehensive capacity building across the organization, the development of a wide-range partnerships, and the diversification of the resource mobilization system



Branches of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (Source: Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan)

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Kyrgyzstan is a [land-locked](#), lower-middle-income country in the Central Asian region, bordering with Kazakhstan to the north, Uzbekistan to the west, Tajikistan to the south and China to the east. According to [World Bank data](#), in 2022 the population of the country was 6.8 million people, with a GDP of 10.93 billion USD (GDP per capita 1,606.7 USD) and an average life expectancy of 72 years.

[Kyrgyzstan](#) is the second poorest country in Central Asia after Tajikistan and about a third of the population lives below the poverty line. Over half of the country is made up of agricultural land, consisting mainly of pasture. Kyrgyzstan is an import-dependent country, where most needed food items mainly come from outside the country, including significant wheat, vegetable oil, and sugar imports from the Russian Federation. In January-February 2023, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for staple foods increased by [17.6 percent](#), compared to the same period of 2022. Rising food prices are eroding the purchasing power of the most vulnerable population to access a nutritious diet. Between 2016 and 2019, poor families spent more than 60% of their income on food, leaving little room for other outgoings and hindering their ability to move out of poverty. Kyrgyzstan takes the 118th place out of 191 countries and territories in the [Human Development Index](#). Kyrgyzstan's 2021 Human Development Index is 0.692. It is above the average of 0.636 for countries in the medium human development group and below the average of 0.796 for countries in Europe and Central Asia.

The closure of state borders due to the crisis in Ukraine and sanctions on Russia has hit the region hard. As well as the impact of key food prices, the [Russia-Ukraine conflict has also led to a steep decline in remittances into Central Asia](#), causing extreme poverty among families of migrants and

their communities. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, two of the most migrant-dependent countries in the world, are the most severely affected.

Between the countries, border issues lead to recurring tensions and armed clashes, such as recent clashes at the Kyrgyz-Tajik border. Localized conflicts over land and water resources in the fertile Ferghana Valley (located on the territories of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan) also play a part. The international political landscape also impacts Central Asian countries. While the Ukraine crisis dominates the political landscape and remains a major concern, the change in power in Afghanistan in 2021, has also threatened stability across the entire region.

An [ageing population](#) has increased the proportion of elderly people living in the country. There is a need for adequate and safe elderly care facilities, practices, and health care systems – this has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has particularly [affected older people](#). Increasing numbers of people with disabilities have also been noted for various reasons, including a lack of proper medical care. There are a growing number of 'social orphans' who are exposed to related traumas, and whose parents are often dependent on labour migration as a means of income and employment. Official statistics suggest that around [one million citizens of Kyrgyzstan are currently outside of the country](#), while their children are often left with relatives or put into state institutions in the country.

Humanitarian needs in Kyrgyzstan continue to be driven by rising food prices, socio-economic risks from the crisis in Ukraine and labour migration, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, disease outbreaks, and recurrent natural hazards such as mudflows, floods, landslides, earthquakes, avalanches, heat and cold waves.



The volunteers of Kyrgyzstan Red Crescent provide homeless people and outdoor workers with hot meals and drinks and distribute warm clothes as temperatures drop way below zero in parts of Kyrgyzstan (Photo: KRCS)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Due to its geographical location and exposure to weather-related hazards, Kyrgyzstan is facing adverse effects of climate change. The continental climate leads to large seasonal variations in temperatures. In the Naryn River basin, temperatures can reach below -50°C in winter and exceed 40°C in the summer. In Kyrgyzstan, the average temperature has risen from 4.8°C to 6°C over 20 years. Over a worst-case scenario, [UNICEF](#) reports that the average temperature in Kyrgyzstan could rise by 8°C from today's average temperature over the next century. In Kyrgyzstan, rising temperatures are leading to more unpredictable seasonal weather and to more frequent and extreme events such as droughts, heat, and cold waves, and to an increasing number of disasters, such as landslides, mudflows, and avalanches.

More than 90% of Kyrgyzstan's territory is mountainous, and roughly half of all settlements are located 3,000 metres above sea level. Extreme weather patterns, such as heatwaves, cold waves and temperature rises, have an impact on disasters and can cause water-related disasters, such as floods, landslides, and mudslides in mountainous areas. The number of avalanches and the amount of snowfall across the region have almost doubled in the last decade.

Another effect of climate change is glacial melting, which is relied upon as a source of fresh water in mountainous regions. As the glaciers shrink, floods are occurring with greater intensity in some areas and causing water scarcity in others. These climatic changes lead to other environmental issues, including the deterioration of soil quality, loss of arable land, changes in water supply systems, accelerated soil erosion and depressed agricultural productivity.

Combined with population growth and increasing water demand, climate change effects are having a major social impact. Conflicts related to fresh-water access, decreased access to household heating, more intense heat waves, and increased overall demands on local electrical and power grids and hydro-electrical power dams, are becoming more common and causing problems.

Central Asia is also badly affected by increased urban pollution. In the Kyrgyz Republic, over 70% of people rely on coal for winter heating due to limited gas availability, causing severe air pollution issues, particularly in major cities like Bishkek. Last winter, Bishkek ranked as the world's most polluted city, leading to health concerns, including childhood asthma and respiratory diseases. The smog is linked to long-term exposure

to air pollution, associated with severe Covid-19 symptoms and higher mortality rates. During the winter season, the use of low-quality coal and other materials intensifies air pollution, with PM2.5 concentrations exceeding three times the norm. Additionally, outdated vehicles, including more than 400,000 registered in Bishkek, contribute to elevated levels of pollutants like NO, NO₂, and CH₂O throughout the year, posing health risks, especially to vulnerable groups.

The country made a commitment to combat climate change and accelerate the transition to climate-resilient, low-carbon, sustainable development models, and has been a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 2000 and has ratified all relevant, subsequent agreements, including the Paris Agreement. The Kyrgyz Republic has prepared three National Communications which were submitted to the UNFCCC in 2003, 2008, and 2017, and is in the process of drafting a [National Adaptation Plan \(NAP\)](#). [UNEP](#) reports that as part of the NAP process, national strategies and action plans will be updated in the areas of emergency situations, forest and biodiversity, agriculture and water management, human health, and energy.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan 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 programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action, and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society has adopted [forecast-based financing and anticipatory action](#), which guide the timely and effective implementation of early actions when abnormal weather conditions trigger a high probability of adversely affecting people, especially vulnerable groups such as children, those living with disabilities, and older people. The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan plans to be an active actor in climate change activities, as one of the main partners of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and within the IFRC network. It is also a member of the Steering Committee representing Central

Asia in the IFRC regional climate action roadmap. High-level objectives of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan include:

- Integrate climate change adaptation into community-based disaster risk management
- Support climate adaptation in communities, considering their specific context and needs
- Draw on participatory scenario planning to identify future climate risks and responses
- Integrate climate change adaptation and environmental protection into training modules for staff and volunteers
- Identify positive environmental practices for replication
- Carry out national climate risk assessment, climate-smart screening and planning, and develop a multi-year climate strategy

Planned activities in 2024

- Increase public awareness on climate risks, and for heat waves
- Reinforce early warning systems at community level for a range of hazards
- Continued incorporation of more nature-based solutions (using local resources) into disaster risk reduction activities, and placing communities at the centre of such action.
- Further develop forecast-based financing, with a focus on heat and cold waves.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

In line with the above, the IFRC network will support the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan's efforts to integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation in disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities. The National Society will also receive assistance to integrate climate change adaptation into community-based disaster risk management activities;

support climate adaptation in communities, considering their specific context and needs; and draw on participatory scenario planning to identify future climate risks and responses. The National Society will also be supported in identifying positive environmental practices for replication; and integrating climate change adaptation and environmental protection into training modules for staff and volunteers.

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 the adverse effects of climate change. In line with this, in August 2023, IFRC approved a DREF Early Action Protocol for Heatwave. This will enable the National Society to support up to 16,200 people in future with assistance during a three-month operational period. About CHF 500,000 is secured from IFRC's DREF for support to be provided at any time over a five-year period from August 2023 when defined triggers are met. The EAP was designed with the support of the **German Red Cross**, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, key ministries and agencies (Ministry of Emergency and Ministry of Health, and Kyrgyzhydromet), as well as local municipalities and community leaders. It follows a previous heatwave protocol in place since 2021, and which supported 496 unaccompanied children and children with disabilities, and 258 elderly people, as well as 7,320 children in targeted families, in a DREF EAP in 2022.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is part of the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) with support from the **German Red Cross**, the **Italian Red Cross**, and the **IFRC**. The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will continue integrating climate-smart programming and environmental sustainability into its initiatives. The National Society will collaborate with local hydro-meteorological service and other partners to improve accessibility to forecast information for communities. With support from the IFRC, the National Society is incorporating principles of the green response and green supply chain management into its operations.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page on Kyrgyzstan

In addition to the weather-related, natural hazards and impacts of climate change outlined above, the entire territory of Kyrgyzstan is seismic and has nearly 3,000 earthquakes every year. Overall, the most common types of disasters in Kyrgyzstan are floods, landslides, and earthquakes. Most landslides occur in the southern regions. 600 localities are in zones prone to landslides, and are at constant risk from them,

with on average, nearly 70 emergencies related to landslides and mudflows every year.

The overall economic cost of disasters accounts for 1.5% of Kyrgyzstan's GDP (more than 100 million US dollars) in damage and losses.

The INFORM 2024 Index for Risk Management for the Kyrgyz Republic ranks it 104 with its Inform Risk Level being low. While the risk level is not as high as other countries, the impact of

disasters on Kyrgyzstan's resilience and overall sustainable development is substantial. The country possesses a low coping capacity, which can amplify the long-term impact of disasters on people, livelihoods, and environment.

Ferghana Valley, at the intersection of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, is becoming the most populated area in Central Asia. The region is susceptible to frequent tensions and border clashes. Repeated tensions since the collapse of the Soviet Union have left many areas disputed, leading to conflicts between residents. There have been multiple escalations in armed clashes between security forces in the last two years, each of which has caused civilian injuries and led to evacuations. Such clashes further complicate access to critical water sources, affect livelihoods, and threaten stability.

Food security remains an issue throughout the region, largely due to growing inflation, price fluctuations in the global food and fuel markets, and the disruption of logistic routes. The region has a low capacity for absorbing shocks, with decreasing levels of resilience and preparedness, all of which amplifies the long-term impact of disasters on people.

Legal preparedness is key to increase the country's coping capacity to deal with disasters. Legal frameworks for disaster risk management in Central Asian countries tend to be insufficient. The disaster law framework in Kyrgyzstan is mainly focused on disaster response rather than preparedness. The Law on Civil Defense and the Law on International Emergency Assistance provide an overall framework for disaster risk management and international disaster assistance, however, there are no clear legal and policy frameworks guiding climate change or the integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan carries out emergency response across the country by mobilizing teams and materials in its seven provincial and 38 district branches, alongside its headquarters in the capital, Bishkek. The National Society counts on 80 primary organizations and more than 100 functional local disaster management committees (LDMC) in various locations across the country. LDMC teams are ready for immediate activation and deployment and carry out emergency needs assessment in the aftermath of a disaster. The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has 140 active and trained National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members based in the provincial branches and headquarters. Each team consists of 10 members and includes at least one disaster management expert, a first-aid specialist, a psychosocial support specialist, and experienced volunteers ready to be deployed within few hours after a disaster strikes.

The National Society is implementing the IFRC Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) for a structure approach to capacity strengthening in disaster risk management and has identified a dozen priority areas as part of its plan of action. It also takes proactive measures on conflict preparedness, given the situation in border areas outlined above. A lessons learnt exercise carried out after the response to border clashes in April 2021 led to the revising and improving of its response procedures and contingency stocks.

Over the last few years, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, supported by the IFRC, the German Red Cross, the Italian Red Cross, the Swiss Red Cross and the Turkish Red Crescent has implemented interventions based on cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in support of both development projects and emergency response for vulnerable populations. The National Society seeks to further integrate cash and voucher assistance as a key modality to respond to the needs of people affected by disasters.

The high-level multi-year objectives of the National Society include to:

- Contribute to disaster risk reduction by strengthening the capacity of communities to prepare, respond and recover from emergencies
- Develop standards for the preparation, conduct, monitoring and evaluation of simulation / training exercises at the community level
- Develop and use training modules on disaster risk reduction, safer access, adaptation to climate change, early warning, emergency assessment, first aid, psycho-social and humanitarian assistance, considering innovative approaches
- Integrate IFRC standards and elements of international training such as coordination, assessment and planning, and emergency team leader training, which might be relevant to the context of the country
- Advocate for, promote and revise legislative initiatives (the Law on the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, International Disaster Response Law, and related to volunteering, charity, state social services, etc.) to support the National Society's work and impact on national disaster response
- Develop a system of CVA as an overarching tool of humanitarian support
- Strengthen and optimize the National Society's emergency response procedures and mechanisms, including an annual revision of the contingency plan
- Work in partnership with the Disaster/Emergency Response Coordination Team and Civil Protection Commission

Planned activities in 2024

- Provide timely and effective assistance to people affected by disasters and crises as they arise
- Provide training for community leaders and members on relevant issues of disaster risk reduction and related areas, such as first aid, psychological first aid, restoring family links and others
- Conduct various activities, with the involvement of communities, on preparedness, response and recovery in case of emergencies
- Develop and use training modules for staff and volunteers on disaster risk reduction, safer access, adaptation to climate change, early warning, emergency assessments, first aid, psychosocial support and humanitarian assistance, taking into account new, innovative approaches
- Provide annual training and re-training of members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) using updated materials and input from specialists
- Continue implementing the PER plan of action with a focus on developing disaster management policy and revising the contingency plan with a multi-hazard scenario approach

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC has a dedicated funding mechanism that enables Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to take early action before disasters strike. The IFRC is currently working with the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan on the identification of the needs and development of the [DREF application on mudflows in the Kyrgyzstan Issyk-Kul province](#) occurred in August 2023.

It will support the [disaster law initiatives](#) of the National Society with the long-term objective of expanding their leadership in [disaster law](#) and legislative advocacy based on their auxiliary role mandate, including the area of climate-smart disaster laws. This also covers strengthening the auxiliary role of the National Society through laws and policies. These activities will form part of Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan's contribution to implementing Resolution No. 7 on "Disaster Laws and Policies that Leave No One Behind", adopted during the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as contribution to the Tbilisi Commitments on the climate crisis and humanitarian diplomacy, adopted at the 11th European Regional Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference. Disaster Law and auxiliary role activities of the National Society build on previous support provided by IFRC to the National Society in the past years, including the introductory trainings on disaster law, advocacy and the auxiliary role, and support to government on international disaster law. The modality of support will be through capacity-building, advocacy, research, and technical support to government for law or policy development.

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and with support from EU National Societies and the IFRC, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will continue [community-based disaster risk reduction](#) activities in targeted communities. The German Red Cross is providing technical assistance to the National Society in disaster risk management. Local disaster management committees will continue to be trained and supported to develop risk maps. Response equipment will be stored in five rehabilitated warehouses. The National Society will increase its capacity in cash and voucher assistance and will participate in the inter-agency cash and voucher working group. Support through the programme also includes working with national authorities to enhance the legal framework for disaster management and response, with a clear auxiliary role of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan.



Health and wellbeing

Today Kyrgyzstan's health system provides a state-guaranteed package of services but there are major gaps in population coverage and the scope of publicly funded care is limited. Only 73.6% of the population is currently covered; this means that almost a quarter of the population is not covered by the mandatory health insurance benefits package. This includes internal migrants, due to a lack of registration papers, and adolescents, who are no longer considered children but are not yet employed and thus not able to contribute to mandatory health insurance.

Primary health care services remain poor in relation to preventive activities and coverage. Tertiary care is only located

in the capital, Bishkek, resulting in access barriers for people living in other parts of the country.

Overall Kyrgyzstan faces major health challenges in terms of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. Life expectancy in Kyrgyzstan had improved prior to the COVID-19 pandemic but was still one of the lowest in the WHO's Europe region (68 years for men and for 75 years for women). Kyrgyzstan has placed a particular focus on improving mother and child health. During the past decade there has been significant progress in reducing maternal mortality, however, the rate is still one of the highest in the WHO's Europe

Region, with an estimated 76 deaths per 100,000 live births. Kyrgyzstan's new-born mortality has also been reduced, but at a much slower rate compared with the rest of Central Asia region (46% versus 70% in Central Asia).

Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) remains a considerable public health concern. Kyrgyzstan is one of the 30 countries in the world with the highest rates of MDR-TB (around 29% of newly registered cases and 68% of previously treated cases are drug-resistant) and is among the 18 high-priority countries for TB in the WHO's Europe Region (WHO, 2020).

HIV remains an acute problem for Kyrgyzstan's health care system. [UNDP](#) reports that between 2013 and 2019, the number of registered HIV cases in Kyrgyzstan doubled (9135 in 2019).

The country remains vulnerable to recurring outbreaks of various vaccine preventable diseases. In 2019, DTP3 immunization coverage rate was reported as 95%, according to WHO and UNICEF estimates. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, immunization coverage rates decreased. The 2020 preventative immunization coverage indicated that the primary vaccination series had decreased by 9% compared to the same period in 2019. According to the Republican Center for Immunoprophylaxis of the [Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic](#), since the beginning of 2023, the epidemiological situation in the country for measles and rubella has deteriorated. In August 2023, 2,743 suspected cases of measles and/or rubella were reported, from which 1,774 were classified as measles (945 laboratory confirmed cases, 323 clinically confirmed cases, and 506 are epidemiologically linked). Measles incidence per 1 million population for the period of May 2022 to April 2023 is 49.47 cases, which is the second highest in the WHO Europe region. The country reported 11 cases of rubella in the period between May 2022 and April 2023, the fourth highest in the WHO Europe region during this period. The Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic announced two confirmed deaths due to complications.

Access to safe water and adequate sanitation is also a challenge in Kyrgyzstan. In rural areas, around 40% of people are not provided with clean drinking water, and a large proportion of rural settlements have outdated or no water supply or sewage systems.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has a large capacity in health, particularly in first aid. All volunteers have completed a basic first aid training. There are 252 health trained volunteers across the country.

During COVID-19, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan mobile brigades assisted patients with symptoms, as ambulance services were overloaded. The construction of new

facilities in the Naryn and Kara-Balta branches strengthened the National Society's capacity to serve more vulnerable people. The National Society supported the Republican Centre for Health Promotion and Mass Communication of the Ministry of Health, by printing informational materials on COVID-19 vaccination, and volunteers provided outreach and information sessions for the public, target groups, the private and public sectors (for example, commercial banks, sewing factories), educational institutions, and municipal institutions. Target groups included older people, TB and HIV patients, rural populations with limited access to health facilities and ethnic minorities. The volunteers used a peer-to-peer approach, helping to ensure the correct understanding of information, and provided necessary psychological support where needed. More than 900 volunteers from all branches were mobilized to organize and implement the vaccination roll-out at family medicine centres and other vaccination points countrywide, and were responsible for patient registration, blood pressure measurements, and providing water.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will continue to use traditional and innovative approaches at the population and community level, and in collaboration with public authorities and partner organizations to address issues related to health. The National Society aims to achieve this through the following objectives:

- Expanding the scale and quality of its emergency health preparedness, including [epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) at the community and national levels
- Maintaining and improving the health of people and communities through their active involvement in health promotion programmes
- Contributing to a decrease in morbidity and mortality in the population, by promoting a healthy lifestyle, preventing infectious and non-infectious diseases, and promoting social behaviour change activities
- Preventing epidemics and pandemics through the implementation of programmes (activities) on prevention of infectious diseases
- Preparation and response to outbreaks/epidemics of diseases and development of resilience of the National Society in the field of health in emergencies
- Increasing the capacity of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in the implementation of health programmes

Planned activities in 2024

- Ensure access to primary health care for vulnerable groups
- Provision of emergency [water, sanitation, and hygiene \(WASH\)](#) services
- Prevention of non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular and oncological diseases

- Prevention and treatment of eye diseases
- Prevention of communicable diseases, including tuberculosis (for people with TB and the general population), HIV and STIs (for people with HIV, key populations, youth, and the general population), viral hepatitis (for the general population)
- Preparation and response to disease outbreaks/epidemics
- Social mobilization for immunization
- Promotion of voluntary non-remunerated blood donation, including information sessions and public events among the general population
- Promotion of first aid courses, including conducting paid first aid courses among the population and for organizations, and free first aid training sessions for communities and the general population
- Provision of regular training for staff and volunteers in health, first aid and psychosocial support, using updated materials and with the involvement of specialists
- Strengthening the capacity of the National Society in first aid, in both the material and technical base, as well as human resources

- Piloting community-based surveillance in one region

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

In November 2023, according to the Republican Center for Immunoprophylaxis, 3,618 cases of measles were detected in the country. In this regard, the IFRC is supporting the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan on the DREF appeal on Measles outbreak in Kyrgyzstan and has organized several meetings to coordinate its response activities.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, and with support from EU National Societies and the IFRC, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will continue strengthening epidemic preparedness and response. This will be achieved by building the capacities of staff and volunteers in emergency health, including epidemic control, and in risk communication and community engagement. Staff and volunteers trained in Epidemic Preparedness and Response in Communities (EPiC) will conduct health education activities in target communities to raise awareness on the prevention of diseases and the promotion of vaccinations. The National Society will advance the establishment of community-based surveillance systems.



Migration and displacement

Many people in Central Asia work abroad and send remittances to their home countries and the income received from these migrant workers is heavily relied upon in the region. There is large scale labour mobility in Kyrgyzstan. International labour migration mainly flows towards the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan, where Kyrgyz migrants are engaged in manual labour and entrepreneurial activities. In addition, as many as 30,000 Kyrgyz migrants work in other countries. The main factors driving emigration from Kyrgyzstan are high unemployment and lack of jobs, especially among young people, and the low level of development of the social security system.

Russia regularly hosts approximately one million labour migrants from Kyrgyzstan. The sanctions placed on the Russian Federation are likely to trigger a decrease in availability of work for labour migrants, lowering the amount of labour migrants from Kyrgyzstan to the Russian Federation. Migrant workers returning primarily from Russia and Kazakhstan need to find alternative employment opportunities in the country. There is also concern caused by the influx of Russian citizens into the country: some 50,000 people in the first quarter of 2022.

The biggest challenges for migrant workers are exposure to diseases, lack of access to medical services, human trafficking and other protection risks, vulnerable families left behind, and systemic lack of reintegration upon return. The growing number of 'social orphans' in the region is a cause for concern – these are children left behind with family members or in social institutions when parents move to other countries for work.

The dynamics of internal migration in Kyrgyzstan are characterized by rural-urban migration, with people moving from economically disadvantaged regions of the country to more prosperous areas. Among the most common destinations for rural residents are the capital city of Bishkek, the province of Chui, and the cities of Osh and Jalal-Abad. Internal migration accounts for 60% of the country's migration, with the remaining 40% moving internationally. As in many developing countries, rural-urban migration is a strongly increasing trend. Migrant settlements around the capital city of Bishkek have led to the creation of informal settlements on the outskirts of the city, where basic infrastructure and services are often lacking.

Periodic conflicts in the Ferghana Valley and in border areas with Tajikistan also have a high potential to generate migration from the affected areas. Only half of the 1,000-kilometre Kyrgyz-Tajik border territory has been marked, which leads to ongoing conflicts between the two armies.

Since 2021, Kyrgyzstan has been exposed to a secondary population influx from Afghanistan. The Government has been ready to support ethnic Kyrgyz living in Pamir, Afghanistan, in their return and reintegration to Kyrgyzstan, and has appealed to the international community for assistance. The number of ethnic Kyrgyz living in Afghanistan is over 1,000.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan and IFRC network's overarching regional objective for Central Asia is to improve the situation for migrants of all categories and to ensure meet their basic needs through better access to health services and shelter. This includes supporting returnees. The approach comprises humanitarian diplomacy, community engagement, needs assessments, training, and the provision of assistance. The National Society aims at developing a migration strategy to ensure a more holistic approach to migration and displacement.

As one of the new directions in early action the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will undertake scenario and response planning on border conflict, frequency of which is increasing and resulting in more casualties and displacement. The protocol will facilitate preparedness for possible escalation of the situation, including capacity building for staff and volunteers on population movement. The National Society will also explore new methods of work with displaced people, including strengthening needs assessment and providing psychosocial support, and ensure a strong focus on the protection needs of vulnerable people on the move.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan also seeks to remain the main partner to the public authorities in aiding affected

families from Pamir Kyrgyz in Afghanistan. The National Society is in close contact with families accommodated in Alay region, Osh province, and stands ready to increase its assistance in case more people arrive in the country.

Planned activities in 2024

- Targeted interventions tailored for vulnerable communities, such as labour migrants and 'social orphans'
 - Psychosocial support for migrant communities
 - Disseminate information for migrants
 - Implement livelihood programmes
 - Capacity building for staff and volunteers in restoring family links and in psychosocial support for migrants
 - Knowledge sharing for programme improvement
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the **IFRC** and DG ECHO, the IFRC is currently supporting the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan with facilitating anticipatory actions as part of scenario planning for the high likelihood of population movement to recur following border conflict. Actions include the establishment of humanitarian service points. The **Italian Red Cross** will support the National Society in increasing its capacity to address challenges related to migration, including through the development of a migration strategy.

The IFRC is also supporting the establishment of a regional migration working group to enable due coordination and cooperation among the National Societies in Central Asia. The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is part of this working group along with other six host and participating National Societies.



Values, power and inclusion

The ongoing socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict continue to affect vulnerable groups. Economic crises, loss of livelihoods, work uncertainty and fear for the future expose people to severe pressures. This has created conditions for negative survival mechanisms that lead to forms of exploitation and abuse. Women, girls, and vulnerable groups are at an increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence due to shifts in social safety nets, limited access to information, and disruption of specialized services.

Gender equality is an ongoing issue in Central Asia. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) and minority communities are significantly marginalized and vulnerable in some areas. Women face general discrimination and inequality in social, economic, and political life. Their representation in politics and decision-making remains below international standards. Violence against women is widespread and takes many forms, including domestic violence, bride kidnapping, trafficking, early marriages, polygamy, and physical abuse. Available data for intimate partner violence in Kyrgyzstan

indicate that 17% women have experienced intimate partner violence in a 12-month period. More than half of men in Kyrgyzstan think a husband is justified to beat his wife, in certain circumstances.

According to UNICEF, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have the highest rates of adolescent pregnancy in the region, with about 12.87% women married by age of 18 in 2018.

Due to the widely held belief that people living with disabilities are unable to live independently, many are confined to their homes. There is also a severe lack of proper medical care for people living with disabilities. There are over 198,000 people registered with disabilities in Kyrgyzstan according to data from the National Statistics Committee. Older people are also socially excluded from their communities, particularly single elderly people.

Another vulnerable group is 'social orphans'. These are children whose parents are dependent on labour migration for their income. More than 11% of children aged 0-17 years in Kyrgyzstan have at least one biological parent living abroad. They are often left with relatives or put into children's homes, making them vulnerable or exposed to violence or abuse. More than 11,000 children live in Kyrgyzstan's 117 children's homes, and 6% of them have no living parents.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan seeks to improve the quality of social life of vulnerable segments of the population by contributing to an inclusive society, providing a set of necessary services aimed at meeting the social needs of key groups and influencing the social behavior of people. The National Society works extensively on its policies, procedures, training and workshops tied to protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA), to improve the identification of and responsiveness to the diversified needs of target communities. This includes to:

- Develop standards for inclusive provision of social and humanitarian assistance
- Establish a mechanism to develop and deploy PGI rapid responders
- Develop or adapt referral systems to include Sexual and Gender Based Violence-safe referrals and considerations to all gender identities
- Develop a CEA policy and strategy
- Establish a central feedback mechanism within the National Society
- Allocate core funds to institutionalize CEA
- Integrate the Movement-wide commitments on CEA into key policy documents, guidance, tools and plans, programmatic operational procedures

- Ensure that emergency operations address education-related humanitarian needs, including through assessment, programmatic integration, research and data collection/analysis
- Ensure the fulfilment of obligations and updating of cooperation agreements with public authorities on rendering social and humanitarian assistance to the population

Planned activities in 2024

- Ensure all feedback mechanisms are linked to clear referral systems as part of Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA) standard operating procedures
 - Ensure feedback mechanisms are inclusive of different groups within communities via a diversity of channels
 - Ensure that all feedback data collected is disaggregated according to age and sex
 - Comprehensive psychosocial support to vulnerable people
 - Arranging support and development of hospices and provision of palliative care
 - Income-generating sewing courses for women
 - Livelihood programmes for vulnerable groups
 - Training for community leaders and members on developing an inclusive society
 - Information sessions for business communities, government agencies, the population about the requirements for the construction of ramps and paths for people with disabilities in public places
 - Creation of sanitary and hygienic conditions for persons with disabilities in public places
 - Scale up CEA learning and capacity development and innovate by using online approaches, distance radio learning solutions for volunteers (radio trainings), webinars, video tutorials
 - Training for PGI staff and volunteers on CEA approaches
 - Develop guidance and tools for monitoring community satisfaction and levels of engagement and accountability within PGI activities and programmes
 - Train National Society staff (headquarters and branches) by using the revised CEA guide, toolkit, and training packages
 - Develop comprehensive modules to work with vulnerable groups: lonely older people, people with disabilities, orphans/children from disadvantaged families, homeless people, migrants/refugees, people in difficult life situations, unemployed women
 - Adopt key performance indicators (KPI) to measure how the National Society is being accountable to communities
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will set up a feedback mechanism, including a hotline, for specific vulnerable groups and will use the feedback data to regularly re-design and adjust its programme activities at the community level, and to develop and update its key information and communication materials for targeted communities. Staff and volunteers will be trained on 'data in action' and data collection, as well as on CEA, and protection gender and inclusion. Training will include a component on feedback, using the IFRC Feedback Toolkit.

The IFRC will also support through establishing sub-regional coordination with protection, gender, and inclusion focal points of Central Asian National Societies to discuss and share best practices and lessons learnt on related topics.

The **Qatar Red Crescent** will support the National Society for cash and vouchers assistance to vulnerable families.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in improving access to and quality of eye care services for disadvantaged communities of southern provinces, active and dignified ageing in Kyrgyzstan, and empowerment for resilience (CBDRM Phase III).

The **Turkish Red Crescent** will provide support to the National Society on improving the quality of social life through active community involvement.

The **Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates** will support the National Society to assist orphans in female single-headed families.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2018. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process, and is at the workplan 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 Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan aims to achieve Strategic Aim 4 of its [Strategic Development Plan 2022-2026](#): "a sustainable and comprehensive development of the National Society through constant and comprehensive capacity building of the organization, development of wide-range partnerships and a diversified system of resource mobilization".



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Partnership development is a multilateral effort, which comprises engagement of the National Society with the state, international partners, local NGOs, the business sector, the IFRC network and the ICRC.

For the sustainability of the organization's activities, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan recognizes that it is necessary to diversify resource mobilization system. For several years, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has been actively working to develop fundraising within the country. The development of this area also has a positive effect on the development of partnerships, diversification of income sources, the image of the organization and positioning, and the National Society seeks to pursue efforts in this area.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC network will support the National Society in strengthening public relations and resource mobilization at its headquarters and branches. Support will also be extended in developing the National Society's fundraising system (individual and corporate), and improving the traditional donation system (boxes, charity events, in-kind donations). The **Italian Red Cross** and the **Swiss Red Cross** will support resource mobilisation development.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is implementing action plans deriving from the assessment tools such as the IFRC Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC), as well as the [Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment \(BOCA\)](#) that it undertook in 2023 at its Karakol and Talas branches. The OCAC assessment has identified priority areas at the headquarters level and the BOCA assessment has helped and will assist to prioritize development areas on the branch level. BOCA is planned to be cascaded to all other seven branches, based on the results of the BOCA assessment, where priorities were identified. A National Society development plan will take into consideration findings of OCAC and BOCA assessments and will serve as a major navigator showing where the National Society should be improving institutionally and what components need external support.

Over the past two years, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan together with other partners has been actively working to promote the law on volunteering. On March 31, 2023, the President of the country signed a law regulating volunteer activities in Kyrgyzstan. Together with the relevant state body, the National Society will develop a plan for the implementation of the law and the creation of mechanisms for the implementation of the law.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has various income-generating projects that bring little income. At present, there is a need to evaluate income-generating projects to determine the most profitable ones and support them. The National Society seeks to improving the financial base of the organization. This includes further developing the National Society's income-generating activities and setting up the National Society's Reserve Fund.

Other priorities include:

- Ensuring the development of the National Society's headquarters, regional branches, district representations and primary organizations
- Providing insurance coverage for staff and volunteers.
- Strengthening the administrative base of the organization,
- Providing insurance coverage for National Society property
- Improving interaction between the headquarters and regional branches of the National Society (improving standard communications and introducing innovative methods of internal communications)
- Capacity strengthening of staff members and the role of volunteers

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide continuous support to the National Society in implementing action plans deriving from the OCAC and BOCA assessment tools. The IFRC will provide technical support to ensure the development and implementation of the mentioned inclusive multi-year long National Society development plan which addresses specific areas including financial sustainability, management and leadership development, HQ systems and structures, branch and volunteer management, as well as to ensure that the National Society itself and its branches are in a constant growth of their organizational capacity to provide better and regular services for communities.

The longer-term support from IFRC network will include both technical support and funding, with more emphasis on findings from the assessment that the National Society conducted in the first half of 2023. In support of these, the IFRC will leverage existing funds from the global IFRC-DG ECHO [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) and the [IFRC Capacity Building Fund](#) to cover the development gaps.

The **Italian Red Cross** will support in financial sustainability and branch development. The **Spanish Red Cross** will support the National Society through its project on volunteering model in Central Asia, 2020-2024. The **Swiss Red Cross** will also support strengthening of the volunteer management system.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan seeks to play a role in bridging the gap of public service and support the most vulnerable people of society. Government's effort has increased stability and trust of the population in institutions; however, public sector transparent and inclusive policy implementation and service delivery still requires strengthening. The National Society also seeks to leverage the active civil society, which is engaging with the government through numerous consultative public councils, for conducting result-oriented humanitarian diplomacy. The National Society uses relevant international days and conferences as vehicles for its humanitarian diplomacy.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will give a particular focus to conducting humanitarian diplomacy to ease border tensions, in line with the findings from a lesson-learned workshop conducted in January 2023 on the response to the September 2022 border conflict. The findings have shown that various humanitarian diplomacy activities help resolve disputes and enhance the position of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in conflict resolution.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan also works to constantly develop its image and positioning, which can contribute towards all aspects of work and the effective implementation of its humanitarian mission. The National

Society is actively working on a communication strategy and updating the organization's website.

Other priorities include:

- Incorporating humanitarian diplomacy into capacity development of the branches in affected areas, including training to staff and volunteers, for them to provide information on the role of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in peace time and in conflict situations
- Raising awareness of local communities for them to understand and accept the role played by the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, including its auxiliary role and fundamental principles.
- Training the military to promote International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) and raise awareness of role of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan
- Engaging government officials in training sessions when appropriate
- Training the media to facilitate their support of the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan's humanitarian diplomacy through external communication.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in humanitarian diplomacy and positioning with authorities. It will also support areas such as communications, analytical approaches, and strategic thinking. Together with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the IFRC will support the National Society in humanitarian diplomacy related to border tensions.



Joint drill/simulation exercise on earthquake scenario at a school named after Joro Alimov in Keñ-Jylga village (Osh province of Kyrgyzstan) under the Programmatic Partnership ECHO (Photo: KRCS)



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

With the support of partners, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has updated its accounting system covering headquarters and regional branches. This will allow for the more effective management of budgets, generation of reports, and make financial procedures more transparent. At the same time there is also a need to extend this effort to include the management of the organization's warehouses. This will allow the National Society to optimize the internal processes of the organization, regulate the material and technical base at the headquarters and branch levels (10 warehouses across the country), and inventory planning.

Other objectives of the National Society include:

- Digitalization of internal systems of the organization, including accounting systems
- Developing the organization's integrated security system
- Conduct continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure the quality of the organization's activities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC network will also continue to support the National Society in:

- Strengthening the financial management of the organization (financial strategic analytics and decision making, analysis of income and expenses, audit and monitoring)
- Standardization of procurement processes (tender procedures, documentation and commodity circulation)
- Improvement of the material base (construction and repair of offices, warehouses, purchase of vehicles, purchase of office equipment, furniture, materials, and others.)
- Warehouse and inventory management
- Systematically training staff in areas such as planning monitoring evaluation and reporting

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan will pursue its digital transformation. **The IFRC**, with technical support from the Netherlands Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, facilitates workshops to collect feedback from various stakeholders regarding the current and future state of digital maturity. A digital transformation roadmap will capture short-term activities and long-term ambitions for digital transformation and a suggested governance structure.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC's Central Asia Delegation is based in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. It supports the National Societies to collaborate, through formal and informal exchange platforms, exchange visits, and online and in-person meetings.

The IFRC supports the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan on disaster management and preparedness, disaster risk reduction, health, community engagement and accountability, cash and voucher assistance, [disaster law](#), humanitarian diplomacy and positioning with authorities, branch and volunteer development, leadership support and development,

financial sustainability and systems development. The IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In recent years, IFRC supported the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan through a number of Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#) in relation to population movement linked to floods and mudslides, border conflicts, earthquakes, heat and cold waves, and disease outbreaks. IFRC-DREF support includes an Early Action Protocol for heatwaves with a validity of five years.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to analyse the humanitarian context, assess humanitarian situations and needs, agree common priorities, co-develop common strategies to address issues, such as obtaining humanitarian access and acceptance, mobilize funding and other resources, clarify consistent public messaging, and monitor progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clear humanitarian and development actions and assistance, and efforts to reinforce the auxiliary role of National Societies in their respective countries.

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan is involved in the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and the DG ECHO, with implementation support from the **German Red Cross** as lead EU National Society, and from the **Italian Red Cross**. The partnership implements activities in disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, humanitarian assistance, and protection for people on the move, cash and voucher assistance, 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 biggest international donor for humanitarian assistance.

In addition to peer-to-peer collaboration between the Central Asian National Societies, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan partners with several National Societies remotely, including the Red Cross Society of China, the Qatar Red Crescent, the Saudi Arabian Red Crescent and the United Arab Emirates Red Crescent, and National Societies with presence in the region. The long-term support from sister National Societies includes:

The **German Red Cross** has a regional office in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and a history of long-term cooperation with all five National Societies in Central Asia. The German Red Cross has supported multiple regional and cross-border community-based disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and development projects, such as social structures development with the three bordering countries of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. In the last five years, the German Red Cross has been focusing on assisting the National Societies with innovative programming such as cash and voucher assistance and forecast-based action for heat and cold waves. The German Red Cross has also provided substantial assistance to National Societies during the COVID-19 pandemic. It encourages the National Societies to pay attention to the issues of gender equality, and the

protection of rights and lives of people with disabilities, especially women and girls, who are the most vulnerable. The German Red Cross also supports the National Societies in their development, paying particular attention to the capacity building of field branches.

The **Italian Red Cross** has been engaging with National Societies in the region through projects and activities for more than ten years and has had its own permanent office in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan since 2018. In Kyrgyzstan, it has supported the National Society in the development of its legal framework, in promoting women empowerment in the country through economic and social inclusion, and in enhancing its disaster preparedness and response capacities.

The **Kuwait Red Crescent** has been supporting the National Society since 2020 with improving water supply and sanitation. The project was implemented in the Batken region of the Kadamzhai district inhabited by the "Sovetskoe" community. With a funding of USD 60,000, the implementation helped 700 households having improved access to potable water via rehabilitation of community water supply system.

In 2023, the Kuwait Red Crescent also collaborated with the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan on implementation of a project to support the vulnerable communities in Batken province affected by border conflicts to fasten their recovery and return to ordinary life. With funding amount of USD 50,000, 280 families received support in the form of essential household items.

The **Qatar Red Crescent** supports the National Society with food vouchers for low-income families during Ramadan month. In 2023, 623 families received vouchers for food items, excluding tobacco, alcohol beverages and chemical products.

The **Spanish Red Cross** has been supporting the volunteering model of National Societies in Central Asia. It is also supporting the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan with community-based disaster risk management in Bishkek, Talas, and Osh provinces.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has been collaborating with the Kyrgyzstan National Society since 2014, driven by a common goal around the sustainable implementation of programmes in support of the most vulnerable people in Kyrgyzstan. Current partnership projects are aligned with the National Society's strategic priorities in social care, public health, disaster risk reduction and organizational development. The multi-year partnership framework agreement covers the areas of fundraising, volunteer management and institutional preparedness for effective emergency response.

The **Turkish Red Crescent** Society established its delegation for Central Asia in 2019. Based in Bishkek, its aim is to extend

its level of partnership with National Societies in the region. It cooperates with the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan to improve its preparedness in the fields of disaster management and social development, in line with the National Society strategic plan.

The **Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates** supports the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan in providing

financial assistance to orphans, children from low-income families and multi-child female headed households. Funds are mobilized through charity campaigns. In 2023, 726 orphan children benefitted from the financial assistance, and received medical assistance. Preliminary assessment revealed the need in dental care.

Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
Emirates Red Crescent	542,000					●	
German Red Cross	151,000		●			●	
Italian Red Cross	85,000	●			●	●	
Kuwait Red Crescent Society			●				
Qatar Red Crescent Society	18,000					●	
Spanish Red Cross	87,000					●	
Swiss Red Cross	499,000		●	●		●	●
Turkish Red Crescent			●			●	

Total Funding requirement

1.4M

Movement coordination

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) work closely together throughout Central Asia. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#). The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan organizes monthly coordination meetings to update International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners about ongoing activities, highlights and upcoming priorities, and Movement partners also share information about their ongoing activities

and priorities. The National Society also proactively provides Movement partners with regular situation reports during emergencies.

In Kyrgyzstan, the ICRC helps victims of violence, visits detainees, promotes international humanitarian law, renovates, and supplies health facilities, works with the authorities on the issue of missing persons and helps train the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan. The ICRC's support for Kyrgyzstan is covered by its regional delegation in Uzbekistan.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan works closely with the authorities, in particular the Ministry of Emergency, Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Health, and State Agency for Youth Affairs. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Society, supported by the IFRC, took an active part in coordination bodies, such as the risk communication group, composed of representatives from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Culture, the Republican Center for Public Health, the Republican Center of Immunization, and of international partners such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan has partnerships with external partners, including USAID, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), to improve the effective implementation of relevant programmes.



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 Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, 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 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.

Contact information

Chingiz Dzhakipov

President

Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan

T +996 31 2300190

ch.djakipov@redcrescent.kg

www.redcrescent.kg

Andrej Naricyn

Head of Strategic Engagement & Partnerships

IFRC Regional Office for Europe, Budapest

T +367 04306528

andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org

Seval Guzelkilinc

Head of Delegation

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation
for Central Asia, Bishkek

T +996 700 558 803

seval.guzelkilinc@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

Lead

IFRC Global Strategic Planning & Reporting Centre
New Delhi

sumitha.martin@ifrc.org