



HAITI

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

21 March 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 20.8M**

In support of the Haiti Red Cross Society



Croix-Rouge Haïtienne

L'auxiliaire des pouvoirs publics dans le domaine humanitaire



105

National Society branches



60

National Society staff



10,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



50,000

Climate and environment



1.5M

Disasters and crises



1.5M

Health and wellbeing



50,000

Migration and displacement



150,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- livelihoods • health
- water sanitation and hygiene
- Protection gender and inclusion

Capacity development

- epidemic preparedness and response
- protection and displacement services
- complex humanitarian environment

Key country data

Population **11.6M**

INFORM Severity rating **Very high**

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **High**

Human Development Index rank **163**

Population below poverty level **58.5%**

Funding requirements

2024

2025**

2026**

Total 9.67M CHF

Total 6.58M CHF

Total 4.58M CHF

Through the IFRC

7.7M CHF

Through the IFRC

6.60M CHF

Through the IFRC

4.58M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

1.9M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

37,000 CHF

**Projected funding requirements

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

310,000 CHF

Climate and environment

2.5M CHF

Disasters and crises

850,000 CHF

Health and wellbeing

1M CHF

Migration and displacement

200,000 CHF

Values, power and inclusion

2.9M CHF

Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

Austrian Red Cross*

British Red Cross*

The Canadian Red Cross Society

Italian Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society*

The Netherlands Red Cross

Spanish 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:

MAAHT003

Hazards



Floods



Hurricanes



Earthquakes



Violence



Economic hardship

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Haiti Red Cross Society** was founded in 1932, recognized as being of public utility by a Presidential Decree, and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in [1937](#). The National Society has an auxiliary role to the public authorities to contribute to the improvement of health, the prevention of disease and accidents, and the alleviation of suffering; to support effective risk reduction actions; and to provide emergency relief services for the victims of disasters of any kind. The Haiti Red Cross Society also collaborates with the public authorities for the protection and assistance of vulnerable migrants and displaced people and in the promotion of International Humanitarian Law.

With over 90 years of experience in crisis and emergency management, the Haiti Red Cross Society is well recognized and accepted by the country's population. Its neutrality facilitates the impartial provision of services to prevent and alleviate human suffering in a complex context, where outbreaks of violence and socio-political instability aggravate the protection needs of the people affected. Its ambulance service is one of the country's only independent and neutral ambulance service providers. The National Society's network of branches allows strong connections with local communities and to reach the most remote and underserved populations, and its close to

10,000 volunteers often originate from the communities they serve, which fosters trust.

The National Society plays a key role in improving the coordination between health and civil protection authorities and communities and fosters links between emergency response and long-term development programmes. The Haiti Red Cross Society defines its [strategic pillars](#) as:

- Be prepared to act better: mobilize communities to become more resilient, and build capacities to prepare for and respond effectively to disasters and crises; support risk reduction preparedness, response and recovery, while strengthening its role and competencies as an auxiliary to the public authorities
- Mitigate the risks: support communities to identify the warning signs of emergencies, and anticipate and mitigate the impact of emergency situations, including health-related issues and adaptation to climate change
- Act for more social inclusion: promote the social inclusion of the most disadvantaged groups, as it builds community resilience and meets the protection and humanitarian needs of migrants

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Haiti's humanitarian situation is critical, with over [5.2 million people needing assistance in 2023](#), an increase from the 4.9 million in 2022. This dire need stems from a combination of political instability and violence, economic challenges, and exposure to natural hazards, compounded by significant social inequality. The wealth gap is stark, with the richest [20%](#) owning more than 64% of the country's wealth, while the poorest 20% own less than 1%. The economic decline has been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, leading to significant fiscal imbalances, and offsetting any recent progress in poverty reduction.

Natural hazards further exacerbate Haiti's vulnerabilities. Over 96% of the population is exposed to risks like hurricanes, floods, and earthquakes. The [2021 earthquake](#) in the Southern region and the devastating [2010 earthquake](#), underscore the country's susceptibility to such hazards. The effects of climate change, likely to increase the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, pose an additional threat, with Haiti lacking adequate preparedness and adaptation mechanisms.

Political instability, highlighted by the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in 2021, has led to increased violence and insecurity. Armed gangs, particularly in Port-au-Prince, are gaining control over territories, leading to widespread displacement and atrocities against the population. The situation worsened following the announcement of fuel subsidy

cuts in mid-September 2023, sparking massive, sometimes violent, demonstrations and a months-long blockade of Haiti's main oil terminal by gangs.

This blockade paralyzed economic and social activity, limiting access to basic services, hampering relief operations, and creating considerable difficulties for humanitarian access. These conditions led to the closure of schools and deprived approximately four million children of their right to education. Furthermore, nearly half the population suffers from food insecurity, and for the first time in Haiti's history, at least 19,000 people are facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity.

Amidst these challenges, the health and education systems face significant hurdles. Infant and maternal mortality rates remain at high levels, and the use of preventive measures is stagnant or declining, particularly for the poorest households. More than 20% of children are at risk of cognitive and physical limitations, and only 78% of 15-year-olds will survive to the

age of 60. According to the Human Capital Index, a child born today in Haiti will become only 45% as productive as they could be if they received a complete education and adequate access to health care. Haiti's health system faces challenges in terms of investment, governance, and coordination, both within the public system and elsewhere. Issues that must be addressed in order to improve the health system include barriers to accessing quality and affordable health care, supply shortages and disruptions, and a shortage of health workers. Against this alarming backdrop, the authorities confirmed new cases of cholera in October 2022, the first in three years. By mid-November 2022, the disease had spread throughout the country.

This complex array of challenges has led to a significant migration, with over 1.7 million Haitian migrants worldwide. The socio-economic context and levels of insecurity make the reintegration of expelled migrants difficult, adding another layer to the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021, in terms of climate hazards, Haiti has been the third most affected country worldwide over the last two decades. The effects of extreme weather events induced by climate change can be illustrated by the cyclonic floods that have occurred in Haiti since 2000, affecting over 275,000 people.

The Haitian economy and society heavily rely on the environment and stable climatic conditions, including balanced biogeochemical cycles and healthy ecosystems, which are vital for providing essential resources such as water, soil, and biodiversity. These elements are crucial for various activities like wood extraction, food production, processing, and transportation that are integral to the daily lives of Haitians. However, climate change significantly disrupts this balance, already impacting Haiti with an increased frequency of extreme weather events like hurricanes, floods, and droughts.

The degradation of Haiti's marine and terrestrial ecosystems has also increased in recent years. The country has already lost all its primary forests, and its remaining forests continue to shrink. In recent years, the area of Haiti's fallen forests covers 12.6% of its territory, and it is estimated that 36.3% has only patchy forest cover. Waste management – collection and

treatment – remains considerably basic. Only 12.4% of solid waste is collected, the lowest rate in Latin America and the Caribbean, according to UNOCHA.

By 2030, Haiti predicts that its annual rainfall will decrease by about 6 to 20%, its rainfall seasonality will change, and the temperature will rise between 0.8 and 1°C. This prediction is outlined in Haiti's updated Nationally Determined Contribution to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The variation in rainfall and temperature leads to new insect crop pests and a higher incidence of vector-borne diseases such as malaria.

Combined with environmental degradation and deep social divisions, these events are threatening Haiti's economy, infrastructure, and community livelihoods. The recurring nature of these issues exacerbates the instability in a country already grappling with high levels of violence and uncertainty.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Haiti Red Cross Society is part of the 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; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The National Society seeks to integrate climate risk management, including climate adaptation and mitigation, into its programs, operations, and advocacy, and to adopt approaches for environmental management to reduce risk exposure and vulnerability. It puts specific emphasis in its climate and environmental work on vulnerability factors related to livelihoods, food shortages, access to health, climate change-induced displacement, and urban living.

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

- Develop an environmental policy and a climate change adaptation strategy
- Build National Society narratives and communication strategies focused on climate change and its impacts on communities
- Integrating climate risk management, including adaptation and mitigation, into all programmes, operations, and outreach activities
- Consider ecosystem services and environmental management approaches to reduce risk exposure and vulnerability

- Improve staff and volunteer capacities in climate action and climate-smart programming
- Consider protection, gender equality, and inclusion issues, strengthening activities in these areas when addressing climate change

Planned activities in 2024

- Implement climate-related actions through the Haiti Red Cross Society branches, including community awareness of climate change and environmental risks, and climate-smart disaster risk reduction
 - Incorporate climate change adaptation into the National Society's strategic and annual operations plans
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Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society across its climate and environment priorities, and in strengthening its capacity for climate change adaptation, climate action, and climate-smart programming. This includes supporting behaviour change communications to engage people in climate change awareness.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** will continue supporting the Haiti Red Cross Society to work with communities on climate change adaptation, climate-smart disaster risk reduction capacity building, and awareness raising.

The **Swiss Red Cross** continues to support the Haiti Red Cross Society's efforts on disaster risk reduction related to climate change, and raising communities' awareness to be able to adapt to environmental crisis.



24th July 2023, Volunteers from the West Department participating in a five-day training course on community involvement and accountability, organized by The Haitian Red Cross with the IFRC's support. (Photo: Haitian Red Cross)



Disasters and crises

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

Haiti is exposed to multiple natural hazards. More than 93% of the territory and over 96% of the population are exposed to at least two hazards, including hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides and droughts, which regularly cause significant drops in agricultural production in many departments. From 1909 to 2023, the country faced more than 100 disasters, including 40 hurricanes and storms, 48 floods, nine droughts, and three earthquakes. Hydro-meteorological disasters accounted for 97% of the events recorded during the period. Haiti is in the path of tropical cyclones, whose average season - from June to November for the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico - overlaps with rainy periods. The high density of communities settled in flood-prone areas, near riverbeds or the indented coastline, and on the slopes of the Mornes, amplify the effects of cyclone-related hazards.

The geography of Haiti leads to significant differences in hazard exposure across the country's ten geographical departments. The Centre, which is not coastal, is not exposed to tsunamis, storm surges or cyclonic swells, however, lightning is very pronounced. Drought is particularly intense in the Nord-Ouest and Artibonite departments. The West, the most densely populated, is at higher risk of earthquakes, floods, and landslides. The Southern Peninsula has faced repeated major catastrophic events, with damages and consequences of enormous magnitude.

Haiti is located in a very active tectonic zone, at the border of the Caribbean and the North American tectonic plates, resulting in significant seismic phenomena. The epicentre of the 14 August 2021 earthquake killed 2,248 people and affected at least 800,000 people, with 650,000 people needing emergency humanitarian assistance in the Sud, Nippes, and Grand'Anse departments. The cost of sustainable reconstruction and economic recovery is estimated to be approximately US\$2 billion. The impact of the 2010 earthquake was out of all proportion to other disasters. The earthquake killed an estimated 220,000 people and displaced 1,5 million people.

Haiti is also vulnerable to human-made hazards including industrial accidents, dam failures, transport accidents and fires. Violence and insecurity also significantly affect people in need in Haiti and add constraints to efficient and effective humanitarian services (see also under Values, power and inclusion section).

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Haiti Red Cross Society seeks to strengthen its capacity to adapt to increasingly complex humanitarian environments and on preparedness and readiness to respond to shocks. It invests in the anticipation and mitigation of risks from the multiple hazards that affect the lives, livelihoods, homes and living conditions of vulnerable communities and the most disadvantaged and hard-to-reach people. This includes work on early warning systems and [anticipatory action](#), and strengthening people-centred and people-led approaches.

The high-level objectives of the National Society include:

- Enabling communities to take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards
- Meeting the needs of people affected by crises and disasters through access to cash and in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate and flexible and strengthens their agency
- Effectively use technology and innovation to anticipate risks and disasters
- Build forecast-based financing approaches to anticipate and implement early action
- Better target people, placing affected people and communities at the centre of preparedness and response activities
- Further embrace ethical and people-led approaches, such as cash transfer and livelihood programmes

Planned activities in 2024

- Implement and expand community resilience actions
- Build capacity at the branch level for the implementation of [IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund](#) (IFRC-DREF) operations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Haiti Red Cross Society on technology and innovation, anticipatory action, as well as trainings and capacity building, including through facilitating peer-to-peer support. **IFRC** mechanisms such as the DREF and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2023, the IFRC provided a DREF allocation of almost CHF 395,000 to enable the Haiti Red Cross Society to respond to floods in Grand Anse. The [operation](#) targeted 12,500 people for a period of four months.

The IFRC will also effectively coordinate the regional and global IFRC network and strengthen collaboration with United Nations agencies and other key stakeholders to respond to growing humanitarian needs and optimize locally led operations.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supports the National Society for disaster risk reduction, capacity building, and awareness-raising through the strengthening of the Haiti Red Cross Society's regional and local branches. Additionally, the Netherlands Red Cross support the development of

contingency plans and management of contingency stocks and funds.

The **Canadian Red Cross Society** will aid the National Society by incorporating cash and voucher assistance (CVA) as a new tool for service delivery, allowing for increased and safe accessibility. The programme was activated with a strong community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) component.

The **Spanish Red Cross** will assist the National Society in progressive housing, rehabilitation and reconstruction of schools and educational centres, and livelihoods.



Health and wellbeing

In Haiti, it was estimated that over 4.5 million people were in need of health assistance in 2023. Groups that need to be prioritized include pregnant and breastfeeding women, newborn babies, children targeted for vaccination, people living with disabilities, people in prison, and populations living in gang-controlled areas. Humanitarian needs in terms of health are growing every year.

Against the backdrop of recurring socio-economic and political challenges and insecurity, hospitals are struggling to stay open due to the limited mobility of their staff and the lack of fuel and access to drinking water. Damage to health structures in areas affected by the 2021 earthquake further limited the population's access to health services, including emergency obstetric and neonatal care, in an already critical context for maternal health. Haiti's maternal mortality rate is 529 deaths per 100,000 live births, the highest in the region. Low vaccination rates for measles, hepatitis, and polio further expose Haitians, especially children under five, to a variety of diseases and infections.

Access to drinking water and sanitation services in Haiti is extremely low, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas where most of the country's population lives, causing the transmission of diarrheal diseases while aggravating acute malnutrition. The drinking water access rate is 55 per cent and the basic sanitation access rate of 31%.

After the resurgence of cholera in 2022, the epidemic rapidly spread throughout the country, reaching over 22,000 suspected cases by the end of December 2022, and 63,063 suspected cases with 3880 confirmed cases as of October 20, 2023. More than half of all cases concern children. Despite efforts, lack of access to affected areas due to insecurity continues to hamper epidemiological surveillance, the installation of oral rehydration points and cholera treatment centres, patient transport, health promotion, and community activities related to water, hygiene, and sanitation.

Children under five suffer from acute malnutrition and are at elevated risk of excess mortality. The various forms of malnutrition are directly or indirectly associated with around 35% of deaths among children under five. It is estimated that over 250,000 children need high-impact emergency nutrition interventions to ensure their survival.

Haiti faces high rates of depression, anxiety, and mental disorders while struggling with gaps in mental health services. The immense psychological impact of living in disaster-prone areas and recurring crises adversely impacts many Haitian households.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Haiti Red Cross Society aims to expand the scale and quality of its health and water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH) at the community level, in both emergency and non-emergency settings. The National Society also seeks to strengthen its activities to promote mental health and wellbeing, combat isolation and provide psychosocial support, particularly in vulnerable communities affected by violence and disasters.

The multi-year objectives of the National Society include:

- Capitalizing on its auxiliary role to ensure its position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy, and policy platforms and mechanisms
- Protecting and improving the health and well-being of communities through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)
- Maintaining the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks by providing access to appropriate services

- Increasing access of communities to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable [WASH](#) services

Planned activities in 2024

- Help communities identify and reduce health risks through relevant community engagement, accountability, and behaviour change
- Build and maintain [community-level capacity](#) in effective detection, prevention, and response to infectious disease outbreaks
- Promote positive behavioural change in personal and community hygiene among targeted communities, including menstrual hygiene management
- Measure WASH community awareness related to disease outbreaks, including cholera under the IFRC [One WASH](#) Initiative, and the means to better mitigate their impact
- Contribute to efforts to achieve and sustain national immunization campaigns and promote fair and equitable access to new vaccines
- Provide mental health and psychosocial support to vulnerable communities, as well as support to volunteers and staff
- Define a clear health and WASH strategy
- Contribute to relevant national plans, strategies, policies and/or laws related to [epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) and response with the Ministry of Health

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Haiti Red Cross Society to expand the scale and quality of health and WASH services, including MHPSS. It will also support the Haiti Red Cross Society in promoting technologies and innovations to improve analysis, forecasting, and solutions in the implementation of health activities. **IFRC** mechanisms such as the DREF and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disease outbreaks, such as was the case for the cholera outbreak in 2022 and 2023 through the [IFRC Emergency Appeal Haiti Earthquake and Cholera](#).

The **Netherlands Red Cross** will also continue to support the National Society for its work with communities on WASH, capacity building, and awareness raising, and to strengthen the Haiti Red Cross Society's regional and local branches on health strategy and cholera response. Support includes effective response to disease outbreaks.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will work with the National Society to give an effective response to disease outbreaks, provide communities access to water and sanitation, as well as contribute to ameliorating communities' behaviour on hygiene promotion.

The **Spanish Red Cross** will assist the National Society in water and sanitation, health, and cholera prevention activities.



Migration and displacement

As of the end of December 2023, the [International Organisation for Migration \(IOM\)](#) reported almost 314,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) in Haiti. Displacement linked to disasters is significant in Haiti. The 2021 earthquake led to the displacement of 39,000 people, while the 2010 earthquake uprooted 1.5 million people. According to the latest assessments, instability and insecurity have caused the displacement of nearly 200,000 Haitians in the country, 131,000 of whom are displaced within the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (ZMPP) alone. Although displaced persons are mainly concentrated in the ZMPP, other departments are also affected. Data shows that the departments of Centre and Artibonite are home to 29,000 and 22,000 IDPs, respectively.

Almost [half of all IDPs](#) now reside in makeshift sites. As the crisis drags on, the capacity of communities to host displaced

people is eroding, exposing displaced populations to greater protection risks, such as gender-based, communal, and sexual violence, discrimination, and abuse.

The political crisis, the insecurity and the lack of opportunities are also forcing more people to leave Haiti. It is estimated that there are over 1.7 million Haitian migrants worldwide, and migration is mostly [directed towards](#) the United States, the Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Cuba, and South American countries. People leaving Haiti are exposed to clandestine networks and human trafficking. Those who succeed end up with irregular status and face deportation or repatriation. During this process, multiple vulnerabilities emerge. Humanitarian needs arise mainly from repatriations at land borders, in the form of logistical and financial assistance for reintegration, medical, psychosocial, food, clothing, and

temporary accommodation. The current socio-economic context and levels of insecurity make the reintegration of expelled migrants difficult.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Haiti Red Cross Society takes part in the three-year IFRC 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 across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. Each year, the programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move, and people in host communities, through three operational pillars: improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; strengthening National Society capacities; and local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The Haiti Red Cross Society's focus is to make sure that all people who migrate and are displaced are safe, are treated humanely and with dignity, and have the assistance and protection support they need to thrive in inclusive societies. For this, the main objective of the National Society is to ensure that migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well as access to durable solutions when appropriate.

Planned activities in 2024

- Establish humanitarian service points or similar services on key border points with the Dominican Republic
- Update its migration monitoring and preparedness plans
- Conduct Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) training for branches with a focus on migration in key border areas

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will put stronger efforts into enhancing the Haiti Red Cross Society's capacities to understand migration dynamics in their contexts and deliver appropriate humanitarian services to migrants, displaced people, and those impacted by the migratory and displacement phenomenon (including families who stay behind) in coordination with relevant local and international actors. It will also assist the National Society in extending support to migrants throughout major migration cycles and routes, to ensure that they can access essential services and thus meet their humanitarian needs, regardless of their legal status. The IFRC will also help the Haiti Red Cross Society to ensure the protection of particularly vulnerable migrants.



Values, power and inclusion

Haiti remains one of the most unequal countries in the world. Access to basic social services is low and characterized by significant inequalities. Women continue to face discrimination in access to productive resources, employment, and decision-making. Gender-based violence (GBV), including rape and domestic violence, reinforces existing inequalities. A study by the Ministry of Public Health and Population, notes that nearly 29% of surveyed women and girls between the ages of 15 and 49 have experienced physical violence. Assessments conducted during the year 2021 show that the risk of gender-based violence has increased significantly because of internal displacement caused by insecurity and the earthquake. The existing gender inequalities are aggravated by the trivialization of or impunity to different forms of violence, sexist norms, the perpetuation of gender-based stereotypes, the lack of sexual education in schools, and the absence of justice mechanisms.

The assessment report of the Office of Citizen Protection further noted that sexual and gender-based violence is used by gangs as a weapon to humiliate, terrorize, and strengthen

their control over local populations. Sexual violence involving gangs remains largely underreported. On average, 75 cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are reported per month, including children as young as two years old who are victims of sexual violence in Port-au-Prince. Women and girls between 18-59 are most severely impacted. The cases of men's sexual violence are reported as having taken place during initiation rituals or as a means of being forcibly enlisted in gangs.

People with disabilities represent one of the most disadvantaged, marginalized, and vulnerable groups in Haitian society. Haitian authorities estimate that this group numbers approximately one million individuals, or 10% of the country's population, including at least 200,000 children. The socio-economic situation of people living with disabilities remains marked by inequalities compared to the rest of the population with a lower level of education, limited access to basic social services including health care, and higher rates of unemployment and poverty.

In Haiti, children have been disproportionately affected by protection risks. Approximately 15-20% of children affected by humanitarian crises require individual psychosocial care and 75-80% require psychosocial support at the community level. One in four girls and one in five boys are affected by sexual violence. 85% of children are subjected to violent discipline as part of their education, of which 14% are subjected to violent and extreme discipline, including severe corporal punishment that seriously affects the physical and psychological integrity of the child, such as whipping or sleep deprivation.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Haiti Red Cross Society will continue to promote the protection of people and their dignity and integrate protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) across its policies, strategies, programmes and operations. The National Society equally invests in community engagement and accountability (CEA), based on the Movement-wide CEA commitments and minimum actions. It has an established mechanism to collect community feedback, with a toll-free number available to all affected people to provide feedback and comments on interventions.

The Haiti Red Cross Society works towards social inclusion and seeks to promote a positive change for humanity, based on humanitarian values and principles. To achieve this, it gives priority to enhancing capacities to reach more local branches and increasing awareness, especially through youth engagement. This is carried out with the education community and by creating a space with more inclusive working dynamics, diversity, protection of people, contributions to resilience and peaceful environments.

Planned activities in 2024

- Integrate PGI minimum standards in all programming and follow the guidelines for emergencies
- Include a focus on sexual and gender-based violence in all programmes and emergency response
- Leverage CEA tools for risk communication with communities
- Ensure a sustainable community feedback mechanism, and that information is taken into consideration for the improvement of programs and operations
- Expand humanitarian education programs, with an emphasis on promoting humanitarian values and improving access for people whose education has been interrupted by war, disaster, or displacement
- Promote and raise awareness of the Red Cross Red Crescent Fundamental Principles
- Ensure focal point for values, power, and inclusion at headquarters and key branches of the border area

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will work with the Haiti Red Cross Society to include prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence in emergency response and related actions. It will also promote regular and continuous peer-to-peer work on PGI, CEA and humanitarian education among its headquarters and branches.

In-country participating National Societies will foster liaison with their and other networks focusing on PGI, CEA and humanitarian education. They will also share experiences with the National Society for inclusive management ensuring dignity, access, and participation.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Haiti Red Cross Society is committed to strengthening its institution and carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC's Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2019. The self-assessment part of the [OCAC](#) process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The National Society is also

committed to the preparedness for effective response ([PER](#)) process and is currently in the action and accountability phase. This is a continuous and flexible process that will enable the National Society to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism, and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.

The Haiti Red Cross Society aims to work towards a stronger, innovative, effective, and efficient National Society, with robust regional and local branches and sustainable humanitarian services adapted to community needs.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Consolidate the National Society's auxiliary role and service provision
- Conduct efficient networking through improved collaboration between Movement partners
- Expand engagement of representatives from headquarters and branches in Movement activities
- Improve capacity to mobilize all relevant resources and seek effective partnerships in response to the needs of vulnerable people
- Mobilise sustainable resources
- Work with domestic partners in identifying ways to improve fundraising efforts

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in its engagement efforts, and foster unified planning, reporting, and data management within the IFRC network. It will also establish a peer-to-peer dialogue through the IFRC resource mobilization networks and in-country participating National Societies, which will continue working on coordinated, strategic, and geographically specific actions.

Participating National Societies will further promote experience-sharing on networking and fundraising awareness and capacity strengthening. The **Netherlands Red Cross** will support the Haiti Red Cross Society's regional and local branches to enhance coordination.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Expand the Red Cross youth and volunteer network
- Strengthen organizational capacity by developing local branches
- Strengthen the organizational structure with a focus on human resource development
- Create a procedure for the implementation of the Haiti Red Cross Society Gender Policy

- Strengthen the leadership of women at all levels of its network, as well as the emphasis placed on this issue

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Haiti Red Cross Society in its outlined [strategic objectives](#) and actions related to National Society development.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** will support to enhance volunteering and youth action through regional and local branches, focusing on community engagement and youth empowerment.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Work closely with the IFRC to put in place humanitarian diplomacy policies aimed at achieving effective humanitarian objectives
- Ensure humanitarian diplomacy is constantly present in all actions of the National Society
- Seek greater access to influence decision-makers
- Work to maintain humanitarian access to people in need
- Encourage more frequent consideration of the interests of vulnerable people by decision-makers and opinion leaders
- Promote programming and communication strategies that are aimed at changes in public behaviour and integrated with community engagement and accountability

- Promote greater visibility and public awareness of Red Cross activities
- Increase visibility, image, and respect for the emblem through more proactive communication

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to work closely with the National Society to put in place humanitarian diplomacy policies aimed at achieving effective humanitarian objectives. It will also promote the National Society's image and support its public communication efforts.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** will work closely with the National Society's regional and local branches on advocate for change.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Create a procedure for the implementation of the Haiti Red Cross Society's Gender Policy
- Establish a planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) focal point to work with IFRC and participating National Societies in the country
- Ensure good initiatives and capacity-building training on data collection and management
- Ensure information management (IM) and PMER teams work together to design and update a dashboard on a monthly basis to support decision-making

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will work with the Haiti Red Cross Society to strengthen PMER capacity following recent evaluations, lessons learned and mission handover results, to improve monitoring and evaluation capabilities. This includes establishing a PMER network between the Haiti Red Cross Society and the focal points in each participating National Society for effective monitoring and evaluation. Advocating for systematic collection of sex, age, and disability data (SADD) during humanitarian operations for inclusive and representative data gathering will also be a priority.

In addition, the IFRC and participating National Societies will support the Haiti Red Cross Society to ensure the protection of vulnerable groups and ethical conduct through the development of policies for child safeguarding and prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

The **Netherlands Red Cross** will work closely with the National Society regional and local branches on accountability and PMER.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The **IFRC** is represented by its Latin Caribbean delegation with an in-country team in Haiti. It provides direct support to the National Society, focusing on its development and strategic and operational coordination. The IFRC has supported the Haiti Red Cross Society through Emergency Appeals and the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) multiple times

over the years, in large and small emergencies related to hurricanes, earthquakes, cholera, floods and civil unrest. The IFRC also works with the National Society in the area of humanitarian diplomacy and supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on 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.

Currently, four participating National Societies are supporting the Haiti Red Cross Society as it leads a multi-sectoral and multi-location response effort:

The **Canadian Red Cross** has established a presence in support of the Haiti Red Cross Society since 2007, increasing its involvement following the 2010 earthquake and cholera outbreak. Its support has focused on emergency response, shelter, health, cash and voucher assistance, violence prevention and capacity building, placing a strong emphasis on PGI and CEA mainstreaming. To address the current cholera outbreak, The Canadian Red Cross also supported the incorporation of prevention measures into health projects, focusing on community awareness, handwashing stations, and distribution of water purification tablets and oral rehydration salts, while training local volunteers and Ministry of Health staff. The Canadian Red Cross also deployed a Red Cross Emergency Hospital reaching 5,682 people, along with distributing non-food items to 500 households.

The **Netherlands Red Cross Society** has been present in Haiti since 1996, supporting the National Society notably for programmes like the UNEP/EU DEVCO Eco-DRR in Sud and the Green Pearls Programme. Additionally, a climate change mitigation programme is underway in Corail, Pestel, and Iles Cayemites in Grand'Anse until July 2024, along with a project

in La Vallee since 2019, both aimed at community resilience, ecosystem restoration, and local economic empowerment. Current projects include the 2021-2025 Haiti Chronic Food Insecurity project in Sud and Sud-Est, the installation or rehabilitation of 17 water systems in Grand'Anse and Sud, and volunteer-led awareness sessions. Efforts continue to provide safe water and enhance hygiene to prevent water-borne diseases. By 2023, the Haiti Red Cross Society had reached 134,939 people with the support of The Netherlands Red Cross Society.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has been supporting the Haiti Red Cross Society since January 2010, focusing mainly on the Ouest and Nippes departments. Since 2021, the Swiss Red Cross has aimed to promote healthy, resilient communities in Haiti with key objectives including enhancing health resilience, increasing disaster preparedness, and strengthening the Haiti Red Cross Society's capacities. In Leogane, Ouest department, the Swiss Red Cross supports the Haiti Red Cross Society in disaster risk management and community health programming (2020-2023), along with a water, sanitation, and hygiene programme (2021-2024). The National Society, via the Swiss Red Cross support, distributed 3,210 tarpaulins, 3,025 hygiene kits, 950 IFRC family kits, and 250 solar lamps across various communes, along with cash assistance to 2,307 people and vehicle support for relief distributions.

The **Spanish Red Cross** has supported the Haiti Red Cross Society since 1998, establishing a permanent presence in Haiti in 2004 to focus on risk reduction and disaster response. It has reinforced diverse projects, such as water and sanitation with a disaster risk reduction component, livelihood activities, and the emergency response to Hurricane Matthew in 2016. The Spanish Red Cross focuses on Sud-Est (Jacmel), Nippes (Miragoane), Sud (Les Cayes), Grand'Anse (Jeremie), and Ouest (Port-au-Prince), concentrating on sectors like water and sanitation, rural development, food security, education,

gender, environment, climate change, health, and disaster risk reduction. In response to the cholera outbreak, the Spanish Red Cross has supported the Haiti Red Cross Society in distributing hygiene kits, jerricans, and tarpaulins and assisting in food security activities. Additionally, the Spanish Red Cross has prepared a detailed cholera response plan to reinforce the Haiti Red Cross Society's efforts further, awaiting funding.

Additionally, the **Dominican Red Cross** maintains regular communication with the Haiti Red Cross Society at an

operational level, and they develop joint emergency response scenarios. The **French Red Cross** provides technical and logistical support to the Haiti Red Cross Society in risk and disaster management, with a focus on prevention, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation through its Regional Response Platform PIRAC. The **Italian Red Cross** provides technical support to the Haiti Red Cross Society through id delegation based in the Dominican Republic.

| Participating National Society Support | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| National Society name | Funding Requirement | Climate | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing | Migration | Values, power and inclusion | Enabling local actors |
| Canadian Red Cross Society | 229,000 | | ● | ● | | | ● |
| Italian Red Cross | | | | ● | | | |
| Netherlands Red Cross | 872,000 | ● | ● | | | | ● |
| Spanish Red Cross | 836,000 | | ● | ● | | ● | ● |
| Swiss Red Cross | | | ● | ● | | | ● |
| Total Funding requirement | | | | | | | |
| 1.9M | | | | | | | |



1st February 2023, Haitian Red Cross conducting surveys to identify fears and concerns about the Cholera vaccine, tailoring communication messages accordingly. (Photo: IFRC)

Movement coordination

The Haiti Red Cross Society leads the strategic and operational coordination of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country by bringing together the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies. The Movement coordination and communication mechanism supports the activities of the Haiti Red Cross Society through bi-weekly meetings and sharing of information about the context and operations. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

In Haiti, **the ICRC** works in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince where armed violence has affected access to basic services, such as health care and safe water. It also aims to address life threatening situations through humanitarian dialogue with all parties involved. The ICRC supports and works with the Haiti Red Cross Society in activities that improve access, acceptance, and security of its operations ([Safer Access Framework](#)), and on restoring family links (RFL) and management of the dead. The ICRC also supports the National Society of ambulance services.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Haiti Red Cross Society works closely with national, provincial, and local authorities. It is a member of all committees of the National Disaster and Risk Management System and a permanent member of the National Emergency Operations Centre.

As an example, the government authorities and partner organizations that were actively involved in the 2021 earthquake response include the Office of the Prime Minister, the Haitian Civil Protection General Directorate, all government departments including the Ministries of Public Health and Population, Public Works, and Transport and Communications, and local government authorities at the departmental and commune levels.

The Haiti Red Cross Society also takes part in coordination for health emergencies, under the lead of the National Emergency Operation Centre, in support of the Ministry of Public Health and Population. Coordination for health emergencies includes representatives from several government ministries, along with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) and

World Health Organization (WHO). Coordination for health emergencies also typically includes regular bilateral meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the Permanent Secretariat for Disaster Risk Management., WHO and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

In emergency situations involving support from international humanitarian actors, the IFRC and the National Society participate in the established coordination and clusters. For the recent earthquake operation, the IFRC response team participated in local and national-level taskforces to address health, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter and non-food items, protection, including prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and child protection, and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. IFRC also participated in the IT/telecommunications and cash working groups. To collectively share information on security risks and how to mitigate them, the IFRC participated in a security coordination group with other international organizations in Haiti.



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 Haiti Red Cross Society, 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 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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