



TOGO

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

29 July 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 12.1M**

In support of the Togolese Red Cross



240

National Society branches



92

National Society staff



42,908

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



25,000

Climate and environment



50,000

Disasters and crises



500,000

Health and wellbeing



50,000

Migration & Displacement



20,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk reduction
- Community health
- Maternal health
- Climate adaptation

Capacity development

- Partnerships and resource mobilization
 - Risk management
 - Digital transformation
 - Financial sustainability
- Volunteer development and youth action

Key country data

Population **8.8M**

INFORM Climate Risk Index **Medium**

Human Development Index rank **162**

Population below poverty level **45.5%**

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
Nigeria, Togo, Benin & Ghana, Abuja

Funding requirements

2024

2026*

Total 12M CHF

Total 100,000 CHF

Through IFRC

6.9M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

1.8M CHF

Through Host National Society

3.3M CHF

IFRC Breakdown

Ongoing emergency operations

4M CHF

550,000 CHF

Climate and environment

850,000 CHF

Disasters and crises

950,000 CHF

Health and wellbeing

300,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

250,000 CHF

Values, power and inclusion

60,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

Through IFRC

100,000 CHF

*Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

British Red Cross*

German Red Cross

Italian Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Ongoing emergency response:

MDRTG010

Longer-term needs:

MAATG002

Hazards



Floods



Droughts



Storms



Wildfires



Disease outbreaks



Climate change

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Togolese Red Cross** was officially founded in 1959 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1961. As an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, it retains the autonomy that enables it to act in all circumstances in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, their additional protocols, and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Togolese Red Cross has a network of 65,000 staff and volunteers, the largest in Togo. It is committed to the humanitarian cause throughout the national territory and is present in 311 local sections (branches). At the institutional level, it is a decentralized organization with autonomous local structures. Its national management committee was elected in June 2022 for a period of five years. In terms of governance, there are five regional committees whose responsibilities include implementing policies, providing guidance, and supervising the National Society's accountability.

The Togolese Red Cross's vision is to be a well-functioning National Society, to improve the living conditions of vulnerable people in an equitable and sustainable manner, to protect human dignity and promote peace among Togo's population. Its strategic plan has four main objectives:

- To build a stronger National Society that functions well at all levels
- To promote the identity of the Movement, human rights, social cohesion and a culture of peace
- To strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable communities and individuals in Togo
- To strengthen disaster preparedness

In 2022, the Togolese Red Cross reached 100,000 people through its long-term services and development programmes and 1.8M people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Togo is located on the west coast of Africa and is bordered by Ghana, Benin and Burkina Faso. It has a population of about 8.5 million people, 42.2 per cent of whom live in urban areas. It is expected that urbanization will continue, and that the proportion of people living in towns and cities will increase to 48.6 per cent by 2030, and 60.6 per cent by 2050.

Togo is one of the world's top five producers of phosphates, which are used in fertilizer manufacturing. The country's economy and GDP have improved in recent years, although poverty levels are not significantly declining – especially in the

agricultural sector which employs most of the workforce. There is widespread poverty across the country, and nearly 81.2 per cent of people in rural areas live below the global poverty line. This is likely to be exacerbated by rising inflation, which is being driven by global increases in food and oil prices.

Child welfare is a major concern in Togo, as half the people living in poverty are under the age of 18. Child marriage is also a significant problem – approximately 22 per cent of girls are married before the age of 18.

Togo is highly vulnerable to the natural hazards of flooding, droughts, high winds, storms, wildfires, coastal erosion and disease epidemics. The country experiences recurring flooding and droughts, which have several challenging socio-economic impacts on the population, the environment and the economy.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

Emergency Operation	Africa Population Movement
Appeal number	MDRTG010
Duration	November 2023 – December 2024
People to be assisted	58,000
Funding requirement	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 4 million Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 6 million
Emergency Appeal	Revised Emergency Appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Revised Operational Strategy
Last operation update	Operation Update

The conflict in the Sahel region of northern Africa has led to a significant displacement crisis, forcing tens of thousands of people to seek refuge in the Savanes region of Togo, where their numbers have steadily risen throughout 2023. By September, nearly 60,000 individuals had fled to the area, driven by escalating armed confrontations and attacks targeting civilians, infrastructure, and humanitarian aid efforts along the border. This influx has strained already limited resources, exacerbating food insecurity, malnutrition, and disease outbreaks among the displaced.

Many of these individuals have endured prolonged periods of violence and displacement, resulting in profound trauma, family separation, and loss. Women and girls, in particular, face heightened risks of gender-based violence and other forms of abuse amid the chaotic conditions. Meanwhile, host communities in the Savanes region, already grappling with poverty, the spillover effects of the Sahel crisis, and the impacts of climate change, are now under added pressure to support the new arrivals.

Recognizing the urgent humanitarian needs, the Togolese Red Cross Society has been working closely with local authorities since early 2023. The National Society aims to assist individuals, including both displaced persons and host communities, across several localities with vital services such as food aid, water, sanitation, health care, and protection.

Despite these efforts, the scale of the crisis demands a broader and sustained humanitarian response. The Government of Togo has called for expanded support to meet the growing needs of both displaced populations and host communities, emphasizing the importance of maintaining social cohesion and addressing vulnerabilities comprehensively in the face of ongoing conflict and displacement.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

Through this Emergency Appeal the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Togolese Red Cross Society in the response to the population movement in the Savanes region. This will focus on the following areas:

Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Assessment and monitoring of collective shelters will be conducted to ensure they meet adequate, safe, dignified, and accessible accommodation standards. Additionally, essential household items such as blankets, bedding, kitchen sets, and cleaning materials will be distributed to 19,441 households, with careful consideration given to local weather conditions.

Livelihoods

Providing emergency food assistance, whether through cash or in-kind transfers to the most vulnerable households arriving in Togo. The National Society is preparing for cash-based interventions and will refine its methodology in collaboration with the National Cash Working Group and in alignment with government-led humanitarian efforts. Pilot initiatives will commence to initiate livelihood strategies for these vulnerable households, with plans to expand based on outcomes, potentially encompassing wider host communities affected by the ongoing emergency. Efforts will also focus on facilitating access to and utilization of existing services and programmes.

Health and care including water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Providing community-based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services through peer support groups,

recreational activities, and counseling in safe spaces, including child-friendly environments. Training in Psychological First Aid will be conducted for both Red Cross and non-Red Cross responders, alongside efforts to raise awareness about mental health, stress management, and coping strategies among affected populations. Ten first aid posts will be established and equipped in targeted villages to deliver immediate medical assistance and stabilize patients before evacuation. Affected communities will receive first aid training, and community volunteer teams will be formed in collective centers. Assessments will identify sanitation and hygiene gaps in collective centers and host communities, with improvements planned for inadequate facilities. In addition, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) communities will be established to facilitate regular sanitation campaigns in targeted villages. Training initiatives will enhance the capabilities of emergency response teams, focusing on WASH protocols and procedures.

Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI)

Integrate Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) minimum standards across all assessments, ensuring diverse needs based on age, gender, disabilities, and identities. A dedicated PGI Focal Point within the National Society will coordinate all related activities, disseminating key messages on protection, gender, and inclusion through child-friendly briefings and IEC materials. Training initiatives will focus on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and child safeguarding policies, with staff and volunteers trained to ensure survivor-centred approaches and effective referral pathways. Specialized protection measures will be extended to vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, and minorities.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Branch-level capacity in community engagement and accountability (CEA) will be enhanced through several

initiatives: developing clear roles for CEA focal points among local branch volunteers, providing training in CEA and feedback mechanisms, and procuring and training in technical equipment for effective feedback management. Coordination efforts include participation in AAP/CEA technical working groups within the RCRC Movement and ensuring CEA activities are integrated across sectors. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be developed and refined for the feedback mechanism, encompassing existing and new communication channels, with staff and volunteers trained to handle sensitive feedback and coordinate with PGI. Data collection will include context analysis, integration of information needs into community assessments, perception surveys of host communities, and regular reporting through the feedback mechanism. Targeted information products will be developed based on assessment findings to meet the specific needs and communication preferences of affected populations in Togo and host communities.

Migration

Establishing Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) along migration routes, equipped to provide a range of essential services such as emergency health care, first aid, food, water, psychosocial support, and safe referrals for displaced persons and migrants. The National Society will conduct continuous analysis and assessments of regional and national displacement trends to inform effective response strategies and enhance understanding of applicable protection frameworks and legal rights. It will engage in humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy efforts to advocate for the rights and inclusion of affected populations and collaborate with government and stakeholders to improve support and protection initiatives.



The National Society volunteers organize awareness sessions on community health (Photo: IFRC)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Togo is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, due to a combination of geographic, political, and social factors. It has a low coastal plain with marshes and lagoons, hills in the north and a southern plateau. The movements of the tropical rain belt, which oscillates between the northern and southern tropics throughout the year, influence Togo's rainfall seasons. In the dry northern regions of the country there are typically south-westerly winds, while the weather in the south is wetter and more humid. The changing movements and intensity of the inter-tropical convergence zone, and variations in the timing and intensity of the West African Monsoon, mean that seasonal rainfall in Togo and across the entire region varies from year to year.

The river system in Togo is dominated by the Mono River and the Oti River. The country experiences flooding nearly every year, especially in the Volta and Mono Basins, because of heavy rainfall during the winter months. The floods cause significant damage to infrastructure such as roads, bridges and culverts, and the destruction of agricultural crops and livelihoods.

There are several major environmental challenges in Togo. Logging, for the purposes of manufacturing charcoal from trees, is causing deforestation. There are also issues of plastic waste pollution, the environmental impact of rapid urbanization, and damage being done to areas adjacent to rivers.

The Government of Togo plans to achieve 25 per cent forest cover by 2025 and plant a billion trees by 2030.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led, climate-smart, disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The 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 aims to focus on mitigating the current and potential humanitarian repercussions of climate and environmental crises on communities so that they can adapt and build resilience in the face of such challenges. Climate adaptation and mitigation, integrated with climate risk management across all programmes, operations and advocacy efforts, will remain a priority.

Planned activities in 2024

- Strengthen its capacity to empower communities in responding to climate change, fostering ownership of climate risk programmes by facilitating at least 50 community meetings and workshops, engaging 10,000 community members in climate risk programmes
- Equip the staff and volunteers with the necessary knowledge, resources, and capacity to lead urgent action against climate and environmental crises, by providing some training for 30 staff and 1,000 volunteers, with at least 80% demonstrating improved knowledge and skills through post-training assessments
- Elevate its recognition as a top key 10 partner in scaling up climate action efforts, particularly in supporting vulnerable communities and collaborating with government initiatives
- Catalyze climate change mitigation efforts and advocate for sustainable environmental practices, leveraging the support of 10,000 volunteers, youth, and trained senior managers

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC continues to support the National Society in mobilization of resources to fund projects outlined within the framework. IFRC will continue to support the National Society through advocacy efforts and workshops, helping knowledge sharing and capacity building within the National Society to better address humanitarian challenges and promote resilience in the communities.

The **German Red Cross** will support the National Society by implementing the climate change resilience project aimed to adapt to climate-related challenges.



Disasters and crises

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

Disasters and crises caused by [natural hazards](#) happen nearly every year in Togo. The country's geographical location in the inter-tropical convergence zone exposes it to storms and cyclones, especially in the Plateaux, Central, Kara and Savanes regions. These strong winds often cause the uprooting of trees and the destruction of roofs, homes, classrooms, farm buildings and health centres.

Serious [flooding](#) has occurred in Togo in 1995, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017 and 2020, causing significant damage to bridges, culverts, concessions, fields and property. More recently, there was [heavy rainfall](#) in the northern Savanes region, starting in mid-October 2022, causing rivers to overflow and flooding in some areas. Three of the seven prefectures in the Savanes region, Oti, Oti-Sud and Kpendjal, were seriously affected by the flooding.

Other emergencies in Togo are caused by [fires](#), which occur every year during the dry season. The main causes are human activities, for example slash-and-burn agricultural methods and certain hunting practices. Togo is also exposed to other risks and threats such as transportation accidents (road, river, rail and air), industrial incidents, the transportation of hazardous materials and violent attacks.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross responds to disasters affecting the country, in line with its auxiliary role. The emphasis in 2024 will extend to preparedness and fortifying resilience against shocks. This entails enhancing risk reduction measures and community resilience through a multifaceted approach. This will include the implementation of [early warning](#), [early action](#) systems and [anticipation](#) to mitigate the multiple hazards

that affect the lives, livelihoods, homes, and overall living conditions of vulnerable communities, particularly those who are most disadvantaged and challenging to access.

Planned activities in 2024

- Support 10,000 persons in 20 communities in preparing for rapid and effective mitigation, response, and recovery to crises and disasters, including early action planning
- Provide timely and appropriate cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to 15,000 people affected by crises and disasters
- Deliver timely and appropriate in-kind assistance (emergency kits) to 50,000 households affected by crises and disasters, particularly when markets and services are disrupted
- Increase preparedness to respond to various types of crises and disasters, including sudden, slow, time-limited, and prolonged events, with a focus on analyzing and meeting the needs of affected populations
- Strengthen coordination and collaboration with key stakeholders, including national and international actors, civil society, civil protection mechanisms, the private sector, reference centers, and research institutions to improve response efforts

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in mobilizing resources along with advocacy for its initiative related to humanitarian assistance.



Health and wellbeing

There are social, economic and geographical disparities in access to essential health care in Togo, although the health system is relatively well-equipped and 70.9 per cent of the [population](#) have access to facilities. However, pregnant women and newborn babies do not receive appropriate health care during pregnancy, delivery and the first few years after birth. As a result, on average 368 in 100,000 mothers die each year from complications during [childbirth](#), the infant mortality rate

in Togo is [high](#) and a significant number of children under the age of five are underweight.

Infectious diseases continue to dominate Togo's epidemiological profile. According to the Ministry of Health, the five most common reasons for seeking medical help for children under the age of five are malaria, pneumonia or other acute respiratory infections, anaemia, diarrhoea and injuries. Health authorities report high numbers of cases of

communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS; two percent of people aged 15–49 are living with HIV/AIDS.

This confirms the country's health priorities, which are:

- Strengthening the health and community systems for equitable access to essential health services
- Improving the use of specific health services including nutrition by mothers, children, youth and adolescents and the elderly
- Strengthening capacities to combat diseases and control social and environmental determinants
- Strengthening the resilience of the health system and its capacity to respond to epidemics, other public health emergencies and the health impacts of climate change
- Strengthening protection mechanisms against health-related financial risk

To this end, the Ministry of Health conducts high-impact interventions on maternal and child health; major disability and mortality diseases, including malnutrition, malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, other epidemics and noncommunicable diseases, as well as the determinants of health inequalities with social, environmental and economic origins.

To bring adapted health services closer together, the health system is supported by community health workers (CHWs), whose number and capacity are still insufficient because of the multiplicity of approaches used by partners. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the Togolese Red Cross is part of the Ministry of Health's community health dynamic which focuses on the integrated management of newborn and child diseases at the community level, to contribute to the improvement of community-based interventions in a uniform manner throughout the nation.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society actively engages with the Ministry of Health in prioritizing key objectives of community health strategy. This includes guaranteeing safe and equitable access to health services, water, sanitation, and suitable living conditions for all. The National Society is expanding integrated community-based health care and first aid (CBHFA) programmes, as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives to meet the unaddressed needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Additionally, the National Society is investing in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, with a focus on empowering local actors, networks, and volunteers as frontline community responders capable of swiftly detecting and responding to outbreaks and other health threats.

Planned activities in 2024

- Actively participate at least in 10 national public health advocacy platforms, engaging regularly to advocate for public health initiatives
- Strengthen capacity of 1,500 volunteers in implementing effective evidence-based health promotion, disease prevention, and community care activities, with a focus on vulnerable populations
- Support communities in identifying and reducing health risks through community engagement, accountability, and behaviors change approaches
- Enhance capacity to increase the number of voluntary unpaid blood donations by 30% compared to the previous year
- Strengthen efforts to contribute to national targets for vector-borne disease interventions, including the coverage of 100,000 insecticide-treated nets and conduct education programs in 50 communities for malaria prevention
- Improve communities' access to safe drinking water by strengthening capacity in providing access to safe drinking water for 50,000 individuals through new and rehabilitated water points
- Enhance capacities to enable communities to access adequate, appropriate, and safe sanitation facilities by constructing or rehabilitating sanitation facilities for 30,000 individuals in targeted communities
- Strengthen capacities to provide communities with knowledge and best practices for sustainable community management of water and sanitation facilities by training 3,000 community members in sustainable water and sanitation management practices
- Promote and measure positive behaviour change to 50,000 in personal and community hygiene among targeted communities, including menstrual hygiene management

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide multi-faceted support, involving advocacy and establishing partnerships. Additionally, it will also provide technical assistance towards implementation of projects funded by the Islamic Bank in Togo. The IFRC will support the implementation of the Sanitation and Behaviour Change Communication and Community-Based Sanitation project. It will also extend assistance in conducting hotspot mapping analysis and developing a Cholera Control Plan for Togo.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will extend its support to address issues of importance.



Togo is a country of both origin and destination for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. According to the Operational Data Portal, there were 10,580 refugees and 856 asylum seekers in Togo in 2022, mainly from Ghana, Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mali. There are porous borders between Togo and other nations such as Ghana, so some people are smuggled into the country or migrate irregularly by foot or on buses. There is no encampment policy in Togo, so refugees and asylum seekers in urban and rural areas must attempt to integrate themselves within host communities.

Togo suffers from considerable brain drain, where skilled and educated nationals, especially young people, emigrate to work abroad. For example, 60 per cent of Togolese doctors are said to be practicing in France. The 2021 Human Flight and Brain Drain Indicator ranked Togo well above the global average.

There are many victims of human trafficking in Togo, especially children. Victims are forced to work in the agricultural sector – for example on coffee, cocoa and cotton farms, in stone and sand quarries, in palm wine production or in the gold mining industry. Other victims of human trafficking are forced into sex work, or trafficked to work as domestic servants, porters or roadside vendors.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year Global Route Based Migration Programme, which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three

operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

Planned activities in 2024

- Strengthen and intensify advocacy, awareness-raising and community mobilization for migrants' rights and peaceful co-habitation between migrants and local populations
 - Support 20,000 migrants through its operations in health, nutrition, and WASH
 - Contribute to the improvement of the livelihoods of internally displaced people
 - Train 1,200 volunteers on community awareness on migration
 - Establish community integration programs to help 50,000 people in movement integrate into host communities by developing language and cultural orientation classes, facilitating access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities
 - Provide targeted support for 10,000 vulnerable individuals, ensuring 75% report improved safety and access to services, by establishing safe spaces and shelters, offering specialized services like childcare, mental health support, and vocational training, and conducting regular monitoring and outreach
-



Values, power and inclusion

Gender inequality in Togo is significant. In 2007, Togo adopted a law that prohibits sexual assault and harassment, exploitation, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. However, women in Togo lack information and education regarding their legal and human rights, so the law does not prevent these practices, and marital rape and domestic violence are still commonplace. Furthermore, only 18.7 per cent of seats in Parliament are held by women (February 2021).

According to the Borgen Project, child labour in Togo is also a serious issue, with nearly 30 per cent of all children aged 5–14 in work. The worst forms of child labour include sexual exploitation, agricultural work and forced begging– all of which can lead to human trafficking. Children also work in mines and quarries, in domestic service and garbage scavenging. Since 2017, Togo has made some minor progress in reducing the worst forms of child labour, and there are now more inspectors monitoring workplaces, although the government has not authorized inspectors to issue fines for labour violations. The inspections are helping to decrease the number of children in work, but progress in this area is very slow.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year Global Route Based Migration Programme, which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The Togolese Red Cross has a gender strategy in place since 2019, based on the IFRC's minimum standards on protection, gender, and inclusion in emergencies. The strategy sets out

specific programmes and activities to promote open attitudes to gender equality. The National Society has developed activities aimed at promoting interpersonal skills, including non-violent communication, the prevention of gender-based violence, and empathetic listening and mediation. The strategy pays particular attention to women's concerns in the development of communities and the promotion of the health rights of mothers and children. It is based on the work of Mothers' Clubs (operating since 1995), that help build community resilience and promote social cohesion within communities.

The National Society will work to ensure that vulnerable people and communities and those affected by crises are empowered to influence the decisions that affect them.

Planned activities

- Strengthen technical and financial support for 10,000 youth education and action, leveraging the Youth Engagement Strategy and other youth-led initiatives such as Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC)
- Contribute to strengthening protection, equity, and inclusion, as well as safety and well-being for 10,000 individuals in education through initiatives and partnerships

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Togolese Red Cross in building its capacity to reach more local branches, increase awareness and action through the powerful role of youth, engage more with communities through education, work to achieve more inclusive workplace dynamics, promote greater diversity, improve the protection of people and their dignity and encourage people to contribute to resilient and peaceful communities.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Togolese Red Cross is committed to pursuing its institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. 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.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Utilize engagements with government institutions and other platforms to mobilize resources at the local level
- Position itself within partnerships and coalitions to access additional resources
- Recognize the limitation of available resources and strategize to optimize them

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

- Expand collaboration with additional participating National Societies operating within the country to address humanitarian challenges effectively
- Increase participation in IFRC thematic networks or communities of practice focusing on public health in emergencies and blood donation to enhance knowledge sharing and peer support initiatives
- Participate in relevant coordinating structures to enhance coordination and collaboration in humanitarian and development initiatives



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross aims to:

- Revise and finalize its statutes through an inclusive review process
- Consolidate achievements, particularly in community mobilization and volunteer networks
- Repeat the OCAC to assess and strengthen the National Society's organizational and institutional capacity, building upon the new governance adopted in 2021
- Enhance financial sustainability by establishing a financial services dashboard, improving financial management practices, and actively mobilizing funds through various mechanisms available at the IFRC and non-Movement partner levels
- Strengthen preparedness and response capabilities by aligning external programme support with humanitarian and development priorities reflected in its plans
- Mobilize emergency funds promptly and advocate with authorities for better cooperation and safer access in emergency situations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical assistance and guidance in the revision of the statutes and rules of procedure governing the National Society. It will provide expertise and resources to support the development and implementation of continuous training plans for the staff. The IFRC will support by facilitating engagement and advocacy with relevant stakeholders for the review of the National Society Act and establishment of Memorandum of Understanding for programme cooperation. It will provide leadership training and facilitate exchanges with peers within and outside the Movement to support the transformation of the National Society's governance structure and leadership capabilities.

The IFRC will also assist in conducting the OCAC process and provide templates and guidelines for developing volunteering policies aligned with IFRC standards and support in implementing safety, security, and well-being measures for volunteers. It will advocate for the establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms for National Society's core costs and programmes, including engagement with government ministries, high-networth individuals, and private sector organizations. It will offer guidance and best practices for establishing youth policies and engagement strategies to effectively mobilize and regulate the participation of young volunteers and members.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society aims to define, adapt, and lead its internal and external communications strategy with a focus on promoting its brand image, actions, and International Humanitarian Law (IHL) principles. To achieve this, the Togolese Red Cross aims to:

- Invest in partnerships that can strengthen its communications efforts
- Strengthen its capacity to undertake effective communications
- Establish a customer satisfaction framework to periodically assess the perception of its work and public image, and address deficits and challenges

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide expertise and guidance in developing and implementing a lobbying strategy to strengthen the National Society's advocacy and representation to public authorities. It will support the National Society in raising awareness among authorities and using evidence-based analysis and research for effective humanitarian diplomacy.

The IFRC will also support in aligning humanitarian diplomacy plans with the Africa Agenda for Renewal and IFRC Africa Region strategic priorities, focusing on climate and environment, migration and displacement, disasters and crises, health and wellbeing, and resource mobilization and management.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society will focus on its aims to:

- Develop policies, action plans, and mechanisms related to safeguarding, integrity, and the prevention of fraud and corruption
- Enhance planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting capabilities to meet the requirements of national and international partners
- Formalize security management with the establishment of a documented security framework and minimum-security requirements for operational security management
- Invest in digital transformation to increase the speed, relevance, efficiency, quality and accountability of humanitarian services to the population
- Create a website linking various National Society platforms to facilitate resource mobilization, accountability, and communication with stakeholders
- Strengthen systems, procedures, and controls, including the development of a data protection policy, the implementation of secure digital infrastructure

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide expertise and guidance to the Togolese Red Cross in restructuring its management and financial accountability processes. It will assist in the development and implementation of policies, and the enhancement of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting capabilities to meet the requirements of national and international partners.

The IFRC will provide guidance and resources for formalizing security management, including the establishment of a documented security framework and minimum-security requirements. It will support in digital transformation efforts, including rationalizing and prioritizing investments to ensure growth in digital maturity for improved humanitarian services.

The IFRC will guide the National Society in updating administrative, financial, and risk management systems, as well as performance management mechanisms and quality assurance processes.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The **IFRC** country cluster delegation in Abuja covers Nigeria, Ghana, Togo and Benin, through which it supports the Togolese Red Cross in strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including

strengthening its auxiliary role. The IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme and provides technical support in various areas.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly 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, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the [four IFRC Pan-African initiatives](#) focusing on Tree Planting and Care; Zero Hunger; Red Ready and National Society Development. The following participating National Societies work with the Togolese Red Cross on various long-term and short-term programmes:

The **French Red Cross** has supported the construction of the Voga Reception Centre for trainee nurses in the Maritime district, and it continues to support the training of young nurses.

The **German Red Cross** is present in Togo with two delegates and 16 national staff. It supports activities in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in two regions.

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the construction of the Ona (Plateaux) Health Centre and its effective functioning. Medical personnel and Italian Red Cross volunteers visit the health centre whenever possible, to provide specialist care and equipment, and build the capacities of permanent staff members. The Italian Red Cross has recently provided funding for Mothers Clubs to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable households in the Kara region.











The **Swiss Red Cross** is present in Togo with one delegate and 26 staff. It supports activities in health, WASH, climate change adaptation, disaster management and National Society development.

The **Qatar Red Crescent Society** and the **Turkish Red Crescent** have provided ad hoc support to the Togolese Red Cross.



Togolese Red Cross organises night time first aid classes to provide training in first aid techniques in August 2023. (Photo: IFRC)

Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
German Red Cross	315,000						
Italian Red Cross							
Swiss Red Cross	505,000						

Total Funding requirement

820,000

Movement coordination

The Togolese Red Cross engages regularly with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, to ensure the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly-adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The ICRC supports the National Society in the areas of [restoring family links](#) and communications, and training in disaster relief and management. The ICRC also works to disseminate information on the principles of intervention in emergency situations, the [Fundamental Principles](#), international humanitarian law, and security and safety.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Togolese Red Cross coordinates closely with the public authorities. It benefits from the support of different national consultation councils, and various networks and platforms in Togo such as the Conseil de Concertation pour l'Eau et l'Assainissement de Base au Togo, civil society organizations, the HIV Platform, WILDAF Togo, and many others.

The Togolese Red Cross is engaged and involved in the existing national coordination and communication mechanisms in the country. These include government institutions namely (ANPC, ANAMED, ANADEB), platforms working on Disaster Risk Reduction, health and WASH, research institutions such as WASCAL, and the [IFRC Climate Centre](#).

Other partners include UN agencies comprising the IOM, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, as well as international NGOs such as The Global Fund, Plan International Togo, CRS, GIZ, Compassion International, Malaria Consortium, REDISSE and BM. Areas of partnership include:

- The Global Fund works with the National Society in the fight against malaria through communications activities,

the management of simple malaria (with rapid malaria tests and distributions of malaria tablets), and building the capacity of grassroots organizations

- With UNHCR and IOM, the National Society is sometimes asked to facilitate the re-establishment of family ties, support relief distributions, and organize refugee awareness sessions on community health
- The partnership with FAO focuses on empowering people in rural areas to reduce poverty through improved livelihoods for women and men, for example supporting Mothers Clubs to strengthen the resilience of flood-affected households in the Savanes region
- UNFPA works with the National Society to tackle gender-based violence. Together, they also contribute towards raising the rate of attendance at health centres by taking a community approach, working with Papas Champions (men's committees) and Mothers Clubs
- UNICEF and the National Society have collaborated in the prevention of and response to health emergencies, and development projects in maternal and child health, particularly the promotion of essential family practices



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 Togolese Red Cross, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2024 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC [Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of 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

Egah Koffi Agbeko Gerard

Secretary General
Togolese Red Cross
T +22897051607
gekamann@yahoo.fr
crt-plateaux.org

Louise Daintrey

Head of Strategic Partnerships
& Resource Mobilization
IFRC Regional Office for Africa, Nairobi
T +254 110 843978
louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

Bhupinder Tomar

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
Nigeria, Togo, Benin & Ghana, based
in Abuja
T +234 8186730823
bhupinder.tomar@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

Lead
IFRC Global Strategic Planning & Reporting Centre
New Delhi
sumitha.martin@ifrc.org