



# PARAGUAY

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan

12 August 2024

Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 19.8M**

In support of Paraguayan Red Cross



Cruz Roja  
Paraguaya



**19**

National Society branches



**20**

National Society staff



**1,438**

National Society volunteers

## People to be reached



**3,000**

Climate and  
environment



**3,500**

Disasters  
and crises



**10,000**

Health and  
wellbeing



**500**

Migration &  
Displacement



**500**

Values, power  
and inclusion

## IFRC network multi-year focus

### Longer-term needs

- Disaster risk management
- Climate change adaptation
  - Community health

### Capacity development

- Auxiliary role
- Financial sustainability and resource mobilization
  - Volunteering

## Key country data

**Population** **6.8M**

**INFORM Climate Risk Index** **Low**

**Human Development Index rank** **105**

**Population below poverty level** **24.7%**

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for  
South Cone, based in Argentina

# Funding requirements

2024

2025\*\*

2026\*\*

Total 6.83M CHF

Through IFRC

→ 423,839 CHF

Through Participating National Societies

→ 286,000 CHF

Through Host National Society

5.8M CHF

Total 6.85M CHF

Through IFRC

→ 925,000 CHF

Through Participating National Societies

→ 75,000 CHF

Through Host National Society

5.8M CHF

Total 6.12M CHF

Through IFRC

→ 275,000 CHF

Through Host National Society

5.8M CHF

\*\*Projected funding requirements

## IFRC Breakdown

### Longer-term needs

148,839 CHF  
Climate and environment

50,000 CHF  
Disasters and crises

75,000 CHF  
Values, power and inclusion

150,000 CHF  
Enabling local actors

## Participating National Societies

Argentine Red Cross\*  
British Red Cross\*  
Italian Red Cross  
The Netherlands 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:  
**MAAPY002**

## Hazards



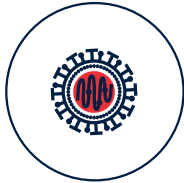
Drought



Floods



Fires



Disease outbreaks

# NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Paraguayan Red Cross** was founded in 1919 by Dr. Andrés Barbero and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1922. It is the oldest humanitarian aid organization in the country and the one with the largest territorial coverage. As a voluntary organization, its social impact is recognized by all citizens.

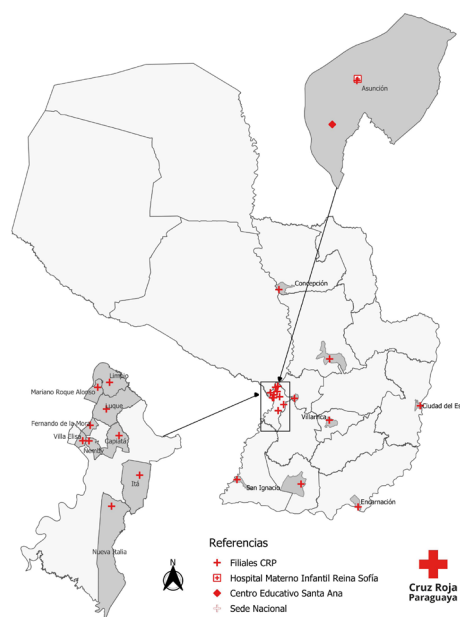
According to a law of 2016, it serves as an auxiliary to the Paraguayan State in full compliance with the principle of independence. The law also regulates the relations of the Paraguayan Red Cross with the competent public authorities, enabling it to collaborate and provide humanitarian assistance. It grants the National Society the competence to act in risk reduction, disaster prevention actions, and the provision of humanitarian aid. Consequently, the National Society responds to urgent and emergency situations, providing health care services in communities and to vulnerable people, focusing especially on the sick, injured or at-risk.

The National Society has a National Headquarters located in Asunción, 19 branches distributed throughout the national territory, a maternal and child hospital and an educational centre that provides services. Each operational unit collaborates according to the specific needs of its area to fulfil the organization's mission. By 2022, the Paraguayan Red Cross reached about 60,000 people through its long-term services and development programmes; and around 6000 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes.

In its latest Strategic Plan (2021-2025), the National Society aims to (a) enhance the impact of health, youth, social

inclusion and disaster risk management programmes (b) develop a sustainable organizational culture (c) strengthen the institutional identity to generate a national positioning of reference (d) generate and implement financial sustainability strategies locally, nationally, and at the Reina Sofía Maternal and Children's Hospital.

In 2022, the Paraguayan Red Cross reached approximately 60,000 people through its long term services and development programmes and 6,275 people through its disaster response and early recovery programmes.



*National Society Branches of the Paraguayan Red Cross*

## IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Paraguay ranks as Latin America's eighth-largest country located in south-central South America. It has a population of 6.8 million people and a very low population density of 18 inhabitants per square kilometre. It borders Brazil, Argentina, and Bolivia. Most of the country's population is between 15 and 64 years of age. However, in recent years, there has been a decrease in the number of children and adolescents and a marked increase in the population over 65 years of age.

In the last two years, the country entered recession for the first time in a decade due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

and the worst drought experienced in the last 80 years. Climatic conditions affected agricultural and hydropower exports in tandem with the COVID-19 pandemic, halting the country's economic growth and causing the GDP to shrink from an average of 4.4 per cent to 0.7 per cent.

Poverty is a prevalent obstacle in the country. According to the Continuous Permanent Household Survey, total monetary poverty was 24.7 per cent while non-extreme poverty reached 19.1 per cent and extreme poverty reached 5.6 per cent in 2022. By area of residence, total poverty in urban areas of the country is 19.5 per cent and in rural areas 33.8 per cent.

The Gran Chaco is currently experiencing the most intense drought in the last 80 years and is generating a worrying humanitarian situation that affects several departments.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



## Climate and environment

The average temperature of Paraguay increased by 0.3° Celsius in 25 years. In 2019, the country recorded its highest average temperature in the last 50 years, exceeding the historical average by 1.5°. The degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats are major factors contributing to the rising temperatures and biodiversity loss in Paraguay. Extensive agriculture and urbanization have also significantly altered the country's ecological balance, putting at risk the survival of numerous animal and plant species.

Paraguay is the second most deforested country in South America after Brazil. It is estimated that more than 6 million hectares were deforested between 2011 and 2019. According to Global Forest Watch, 93 per cent of the loss of forest mass in Paraguay was due to activities linked to the production of raw materials such as beef, soybeans and timber.

Intensive agricultural activities and industries also release chemicals and waste into water bodies, polluting rivers, lakes and underground aquifers. This pollution not only harms aquatic life but also poses a threat to human health, as many communities rely directly on such water sources for their daily needs, particularly indigenous communities.

Improper management of urban and industrial solid waste further contributes to pollution. The lack of adequate infrastructure for the collection and disposal of waste leads to the accumulation of garbage in public spaces, rivers, and natural areas. There are only six landfills authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development to serve the country's 240 municipalities, which means that 1,000,000 kilos of waste enter the landfill in the city of Asunción alone per day.

Paraguayan legislation such as the "Zero Deforestation Law" attempts to fight the loss of tree cover, however, it currently only applies to the country's Eastern Regions. Some legislations only punish crimes against the environment; however, the application of the law is sporadic.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Societies of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay are 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. These are designed 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 main objectives of the National Society are to:

- Take urgent action to adapt to the growing and changing risks of the climate and environmental crises
- Adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

### Planned activities in 2024

- Carry out the "Climate Risk Control" project through the design and implementation of a mobile application for riverside communities to provide accurate information in a situation of greater vulnerability to the climate crisis
- Design environmental awareness campaigns aimed at communities, staff and volunteers which address the proper management of water resources, recycling and waste use

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will financially and technically support the Paraguayan Red Cross in its endeavours to continue and expand the actions it is implementing. It will also assist in the training of staff and volunteers in the field of "Climate-Smart Operations and Programmes".

With technical and financial support from the **Swiss Red Cross**, a Community Vulnerability Analysis will be implemented based on the "My Resilience" tool. Based on the analysis, the Swiss National Society will finance different micro-projects aimed at mitigating the climate crisis and preventing the risks that arise from it, until June 2025.



## Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC Go page [Paraguay](#).

In the last five years, the main emergencies and disasters that have occurred in Paraguay have been related to both hydrometeorological events such as floods, droughts and heat waves; and human-induced anthropogenic activities such as deforestation, forest fires and land degradation.

Floods are a [recurring disaster](#) in the region, primarily taking two forms: fluvial floods from the seasonal overflow of the Paraná, Paraguay, and Pilcomayo rivers, and urban pluvial floods caused by localized heavy rains. Urban pluvial floods impact the regional economy by flooding crops, disrupting communication routes, and causing partial or total isolation of certain areas. Flooding typically occurs between April and July, the rainiest period in the country. In early 2023, the northern regions around Concepción, Amambay, and Alto Paraguay experienced significant flooding due to the overflowing Paraguay River, affecting an [estimated 20,000 people](#).

Conversely, droughts also directly affect the population, crops, river navigation and hydroelectric generation, and therefore the economy. Since Paraguay's economy relies heavily on agriculture and livestock, droughts make the country vulnerable both hydro-meteorologically and economically.

Vector-borne diseases are a serious [public health problem](#) in Paraguay. Mosquito-borne infections have implications for health security, and despite efforts to control them, several factors continue to contribute to their transmission. These include rapid and unplanned urbanization, poor sanitation, climatic and environmental conditions and certain aspects of population behaviour.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

In its [Strategic Plan \(2021-2025\)](#), the National Society aims to update and implement the National Disaster Response Plan designed in June 2020. Different branches of the country are working on the recognition of risks and threats in the areas of influence and community training in early warnings. These

actions will be extended over the next few years to generate local capacities throughout the territorial network.

The National Society will:

- Take action to increase resilience to multiple evolving impacts and hazards
- Provide [shelter assistance](#) to people affected by crises and disasters, and meet their housing needs
- Offer [multi-purpose cash grants](#) to affected people
- Leverage its auxiliary role and respond effectively to the wide range of evolving crises and disasters during emergency response
- Expand leadership in the field of [disaster law](#) and enhance the official/legal recognition of their auxiliary role

---

### Planned activities in 2024

- The National Society will implement [safe spaces during emergency](#) shelters in conjunction with the National Ministry of Children and Adolescents (MINNA)
- Provide shelter assistance and multi-purpose cash grants to people affected by crises and disasters
- Implement actions to mitigate the potential effects of the [El Niño phenomenon](#) as part of the Operational Committee of the National Emergency Secretariat (SEN) and in all decentralized instances at the departmental and municipal levels

---

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross during its response to small and medium-scale emergencies through [IFRC-DREF funds](#). It will also provide technical support for the updating of the National Response Plan and the creation of the National Society's emergency and disaster procedures.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in the implementation of risk management actions.



The Paraguayan Red Cross provided monetary assistance to people families affected by floods, 15 January 2024. (Photo: Paraguayan Red Cross)





Non-communicable diseases such as cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular and respiratory infections are common in Southern Cone countries. Paraguay is facing the largest Chikungunya epidemic in its history and, in turn, one of the largest recorded in South America. The country recorded a rate of 1,169 patients per 100,000 inhabitants, with 265 reported deaths from chikungunya. Patients over the age of 60 and newborns become the main fatalities of this virus. In tandem with chikungunya, dengue is endemic in the country. In 2023, 746 cases of dengue were registered nationwide. There is co-circulation of dengue types 1 and 2 in Central, Itapúa, Asunción, San Pedro, Cordillera, Paraguari and Alto Paraná.

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are one of the leading causes of premature and preventable deaths in Paraguay. These diseases, which are the leading causes of death, affect all age groups and include diseases of the circulatory system, cancer, diabetes mellitus, diseases of the respiratory system, cerebrovascular diseases and kidney diseases. Four risk factors are common to all NCDs: smoking, excess weight, sedentary lifestyle and excessive alcohol consumption.

Concerning sexually transmitted infections, Paraguay has a rate of new HIV diagnoses of 22.44 per 100,000 inhabitants, 34.25 per cent of people are diagnosed late, and the mortality rate from AIDS is 0.81 per 100,000 inhabitants.

It is worth mentioning that the adverse effects of epidemics and pandemics on the population's mental health have been aggravated by the lack of specialized public services. Among the indicators of mental health vulnerability, anxiety, nervousness or worry had the highest incidence. With three out of five people reporting feeling anxious in the last month, the country ranks first in Latin America in this measure. In the country, 70.4 per cent of women reported adversely impacted mental well-being, compared to 53.5 per cent of men.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross will continue managing the Reina Sofía Hospital, enhancing its maternal and child health services with upgraded equipment through the Ministry of Health. It will also link the hospital with campaigns and community education projects on sexual and reproductive health, epidemics, addictions and cancer prevention in coordination with the National Society's Department of Health. The main objectives of the National Society are to:

- Protect the health and well-being of communities and improve access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services

- Maintain the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks by providing access to appropriate health services
- Leverage its auxiliary role to secure a position in relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy, policy platforms and mechanisms

---

### Planned activities in 2024

- Design and implement actions aimed at the development of healthy lifestyles in communities
- Implement community-based first aid interventions
- Implement actions to prevent and address non-communicable diseases and promote healthy lifestyles at the Reina Sofía Maternal and Child Hospital
- Seek to examine local demand for community awareness services in sexual and reproductive health, HIV, community health, mental health and first aid
- Develop and implement a national policy on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), which allows for the training of personnel and volunteers and the execution of actions aimed at the most vulnerable communities
- Participate in the technical roundtables for health promotion, SENEPA, primary health care and health surveillance

---

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross by providing technical support and training on vector-borne diseases as well as NCDs.

The **Saudi Red Crescent** Authority will financially support the National Society in strengthening the Reina Sofia Maternity and Children's Hospital and ensure the sustainability of staff and services.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will financially support the National Society for the implementation of actions to promote healthy lifestyles. It will assist with the training of volunteers in psychological first aid. It will also support targeted branches with equipment according to prioritized lines of action, seeking to improve the quality of services offered to the population and their positioning as auxiliaries of the powers of the State. It will also assist in providing humanitarian assistance through bilateral projects and lobbying with public institutions at the central and local levels to generate synergies in the field of health



## Migration and displacement

Paraguay has a population of 169,567 migrants, which is 2.34 per cent of Paraguay's population. Men tend to migrate more than women with records noting 88,311 men to 81,256 women. Most migrants settle in Asunción and Alto Paraná, and more than 80 per cent of people enter the country by land through border crossings, by bus or on foot. Most manage to enter the territory regularly, although many migrants or family members are left behind during the migratory movement. Many children are unable to enrol in schools due to a lack of documents or complications with administrative requirements.

In recent years, people living in rural communities have internally migrated towards urban centres. Likewise, indigenous communities, as a result of the change in rainfall, are forced to migrate from their places of origin because their possibilities for agricultural and livestock production are affected. With regards to refugees and asylum-seekers, Paraguay recorded hosting 7,502 refugees and asylum-seekers and 5,843 people in need of international protection in December 2022.

In line with regional trends, Paraguay has recently reshaped its migration policy. The country has taken numerous measures to address international immigration, even though it has historically been characterized as a country of origin and transit to Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. Most of the migrants who settle in Paraguay are of Venezuelan origin. As of December 2022, the Venezuelan population in Paraguay was estimated to reach 5,524 people, showing a slight drop compared to 2021, when it reached a peak of almost 5,800 (IOM, 2023).

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross works transversally in all its programmes with the migrant population. It strives to prevent

and reduce the risks of discrimination and xenophobia associated with population movements. Additional objectives of the National Society include:

- Ensure migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migration routes
- Engage with migrants, displaced persons, and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs
- Strengthen and expand comprehensive services and programmes that promote the rights and dignity of all people

### Planned activities in 2024

- Implement actions to re-establish family links from the branches closest to the main border points of entry and exit of the population
- Include feedback actions at the points for the reestablishment of family links to know the perceptions and needs of the migrant population using the service

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross by providing technical support in the prevention of discrimination and xenophobia and the promotion of the rights associated with human mobility. It will also support the coordination of the migration through the management of the "Network of Migration Focal Points".



## Values, power and inclusion

The Southern Cone countries including Paraguay have high rates of crime and violence against populations in vulnerable situations. With regard to gender-based violence, an average of six girls, adolescents, and adult women report suffering violence, and at least one of them experiencing sexual assault, every day in their homes. Paraguay's National Institute of Statistics revealed that 78.5% of women over the age of eighteen suffered some type of violence, at least once throughout their lives, whether psychological violence (57.8%), physical violence (25.7%), sexual violence (60.9%) and economic violence (25%). In the first half of 2023, 36 femicides were reported, although specialized agencies warn about the underreporting of cases. In particular, gender-based violence is highly invisible in rural communities and among the indigenous population.

Adolescent pregnancies constitute 20% of pregnancies nationwide. Two of all the daily births registered in the country correspond to adolescents between 10 to 14 years of age. The same age group corresponds with 2.5% of registered maternal deaths.

Adolescents and young children also face vulnerability regarding access to education as 457,844 children and adolescents between the ages of 5 and 17 are outside the education system, representing 25.3% of the population in this age group.

With regards to the mental health of adolescents and young people, deaths by suicide in children and adolescents have been increasing in Paraguay in the period 2015-2022, going

from 66 deaths to 92. Reports indicate that suicides occur mostly among adolescents and young people aged 15 to 19 who are male, although in the 10-14 age group female deaths predominate.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Society will continue to work on the “Hogar Materno” programme for pregnant adolescents, guaranteeing the continuity of academic studies through an interdisciplinary working group made up of social workers, psychologists, and gynaecologists. All medical treatment will be carried out at the Reina Sofía Maternal and Child Hospital, which also depends on the Paraguayan Red Cross.

The main objectives are to:

- Contribute to positive change in communities through increased understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values
- Empower vulnerable and crisis-affected individuals and communities to influence decisions that affect them

### Planned activities in 2024

- Carry out training in protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) aimed at paid and volunteer staff, to incorporate the approach in a transversal way to all actions

- Design and implement awareness-raising programmes aimed at preventing gender-based violence and domestic violence
- Implement and manage safe spaces in emergency shelters in conjunction with the National Ministry of Children and Adolescents
- Strengthen the competencies of the educational community of the educational centres to contribute to improving the management of resources to sustain their actions
- Strengthen the design of community actions per the main objectives of the National Youth Plan 2020 and implement programmatic components in communities appropriate to the characteristics

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross by providing technical support and accompaniment to the PGI Unit through the IFRC Regional Office. The support will be essential in designing and implementing specific prevention and promotion actions without causing harm to the target communities.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the socialisation of the National Youth Policy in addition to supporting the implementation of the community engagement and accountability (CEA) approach as a cross-cutting axis in the actions of the branches.

## ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Paraguayan Red Cross is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening. It has already carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2016 and 2023. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process intends to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies concerning a wide range of organizational capacities. The IFRC network is committed to supporting the National Societies' development in accordance with their identified priorities.



### Strategic and operational coordination

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Increase cooperation and coordination with external partners to address the main challenges faced by communities

- Coordinate among members to improve efficiency and effectiveness in humanitarian actions
- Continue to fulfil its priorities for Movement Coordination and Cooperation, as outlined at the Council of Delegates meeting in 2019

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross in organizing local, regional, and global events and practices for peer-to-peer exchange and learning through its Southern Cone Delegation. It will also provide support for the development of resource mobilization skills at the central and branch levels, training, funding and support for the implementation of various initiatives. A tripartite coordination agreement will be established for the Movement to increase cooperation efforts and the humanitarian impact in the country.





## Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Update its statutes to strengthen its auxiliary role and thus the responsibilities in the response to emergencies and crises in the country
- Prioritize the development of youth volunteerism and action as critical catalysts for behaviour change and local action, ensuring access, and building trust in all contexts
- Implement financial management software
- Become a strong and effective local actor, ensuring the technical and operational growth of volunteerism and youth
- Develop actions aimed at achieving financial sustainability and volunteer development
- Increase its financial resources, both through national fund-raising and by providing increased international support to National Societies

## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross in developing a long-term sustainability plan. In addition, support will be provided in the processes of identifying, prioritizing, and planning their local development needs, ensuring the quality and

relevance of capacity building fund (CBF) proposals. Financial and technical support for the implementation of the financial system, unified balance sheets, design, and implementation of annual reports will also be provided to the National Society. The IFRC will support the efficient management of volunteering and rented staff.

The IFRC will also support the design of a new statute and will promote the support of other National Societies, particularly the **Argentine Red Cross** for the renewal of the statute of the Paraguayan Red Cross.

The **Italian Red Cross** will support the National Society in the purchase of a licence and the training of administrative staff both at the headquarters and subsidiary levels.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will assist the National Society financially and technically by strengthening the institutional and programmatic management of the National Society to respond in a relevant and timely manner to Paraguay's humanitarian needs. It will also promote the development of internal policies and strategies in addition to institutional information management for accountability and decision-making. The Swiss Red Cross is assisting the National Society with strengthening volunteering through the development of diversification strategies according to humanitarian needs.



*In response to severe flooding, the Paraguayan Red Cross, extended financial aid to 500 families across Alto Paraná, Misiones, Itapúa, and Ñeembucú, 15 January 2024. (Photo: Paraguayan Red Cross)*



## Humanitarian diplomacy

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Work on updating the statutes

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Paraguayan Red Cross with technical support for the design of the new statute. It will further support for the National Society to position itself with national and international actors and develop financial sustainability.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen the organizational management capacity
- Develop the skills of staff and branches

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide financial and technical support to the Paraguayan Red Cross in its planning and implementation

of different lines of digital transformation and support the National Society's efforts in enhancing its accountability mechanisms.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the operation of an institutional intranet that will democratize information at all levels while streamlining the exchange of data, files, experiences, and knowledge.

# THE IFRC NETWORK

## The IFRC

The IFRC has been operating in Paraguay through its Southern Cone and Brazil Cluster Delegation in Buenos Aires since 2010. The IFRC provides technical support to the National Society in organizational development, fundraising, financial sustainability, crisis and emergency response, programmatic development, and membership coordination.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the National Society through a DREF in relation to flooding in northern Paraguay. The IFRC also provides technical support in a wide range of areas, in accordance with the needs of the National Society.




## IFRC membership coordination

The 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.

Several participating National Societies provide support in the region:

The **Italian Red Cross** will support the National Society in the purchase of a licence and the training of administrative staff both at the headquarters and subsidiary levels in addition to the development of financial shielding procedures.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has a strong presence in Paraguay. It assists the Paraguayan Red Cross across all five vertices of climate and environment, disasters and crises, health and wellbeing, migration and displacement, and values, power and inclusion.

Participating National Society Support							
National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
Italian Red Cross	54,000						
Swiss Red Cross	231,000						
Total Funding requirement						<b>286,000</b>	

## Movement coordination

The Paraguayan Red Cross ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. 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 fosters income generation and enhanced nutrition in communities affected by violence and works towards providing essential services such as water. It also delivers first aid training and provides psychosocial support to these communities. The local ICRC staff visit prisoners to ensure that they are treated with dignity and foster implementation of IHL and IHRL by the civilian and military authorities and national security forces. The ICRC also collaborates with the Paraguayan Red Cross and the IFRC to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of victims affected by violence or other emergencies.

## Coordination with other actors

The Paraguayan Red Cross collaborates closely with national authorities, especially in disaster management and response. In 2023, it renewed an agreement with the Ministry of Education and Sciences to implement the Safe Educational Community project, which includes a Risk Management and Reduction Plan. The Red Cross also met with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare to address mental health and vector eradication. Technical committees with the Ministry of Health Promotion and the National Service for the Eradication of Malaria are creating work plans for health-related activities. An agreement with the Ministry of Children and Adolescents focuses on safe spaces in shelters. Additionally, the Red Cross participates in

the National Emergency Executive Committee to mitigate the effects of the El Niño phenomenon and coordinates emergency actions with various government agencies.

The Paraguayan Red Cross will collaborate with the Directorate of Meteorology and Hydrology to develop an [early warning](#) system to reduce flood risk in the central department. Additionally, the Joint Commission of the [Empress Shôken Fund](#) has selected their project, “Climate Risk Control through a Mobile Application for Communities,” which will provide early warnings for districts prone to periodic flooding.



## **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 Paraguayan Red Cross, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2024 and subsequent years. It is aligned with [IFRC Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process, and will serve 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**

#### **María del Carmen Pérez**

Executive Director  
Paraguayan Red Cross  
T +595 986 672568  
[direccionejecutiva@cruzroja.com.py](mailto:direccionejecutiva@cruzroja.com.py)  
[cruzroja.org.py](http://cruzroja.org.py)

#### **Daniel Bolaños**

Head of Delegation  
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation  
for South Cone, based in Argentina  
T +54 911 3396 2819  
[daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org](mailto:daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org)

#### **Monica Portilla**

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Resource  
Mobilization  
IFRC Regional Office for Americas, Panama  
T +502 586 57619  
[monica.portilla@ifrc.org](mailto:monica.portilla@ifrc.org)

#### **Sumitha Martin**

Lead  
IFRC Global Strategic Planning & Reporting Centre  
New Delhi  
[sumitha.martin@ifrc.org](mailto:sumitha.martin@ifrc.org)