

## IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS OF MONTENEGRO



## PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency  
Operations



**4,162**

Climate and  
environment



**38,790**

Disasters  
and crises



**26,394**

Health and  
wellbeing



**20,141**

Migration and  
displacement



**4,612**

Values, power  
and inclusion



**9,942**

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	4M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding: 1.1M Expenditure: 699,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement: 2.9M
		Funding: 221,000
		Expenditure: 112,000
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement: 428,000	
	Funding: 429,000	
	Expenditure: 222,000	
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement: 740,000	

### Red Cross of Montenegro

Overview



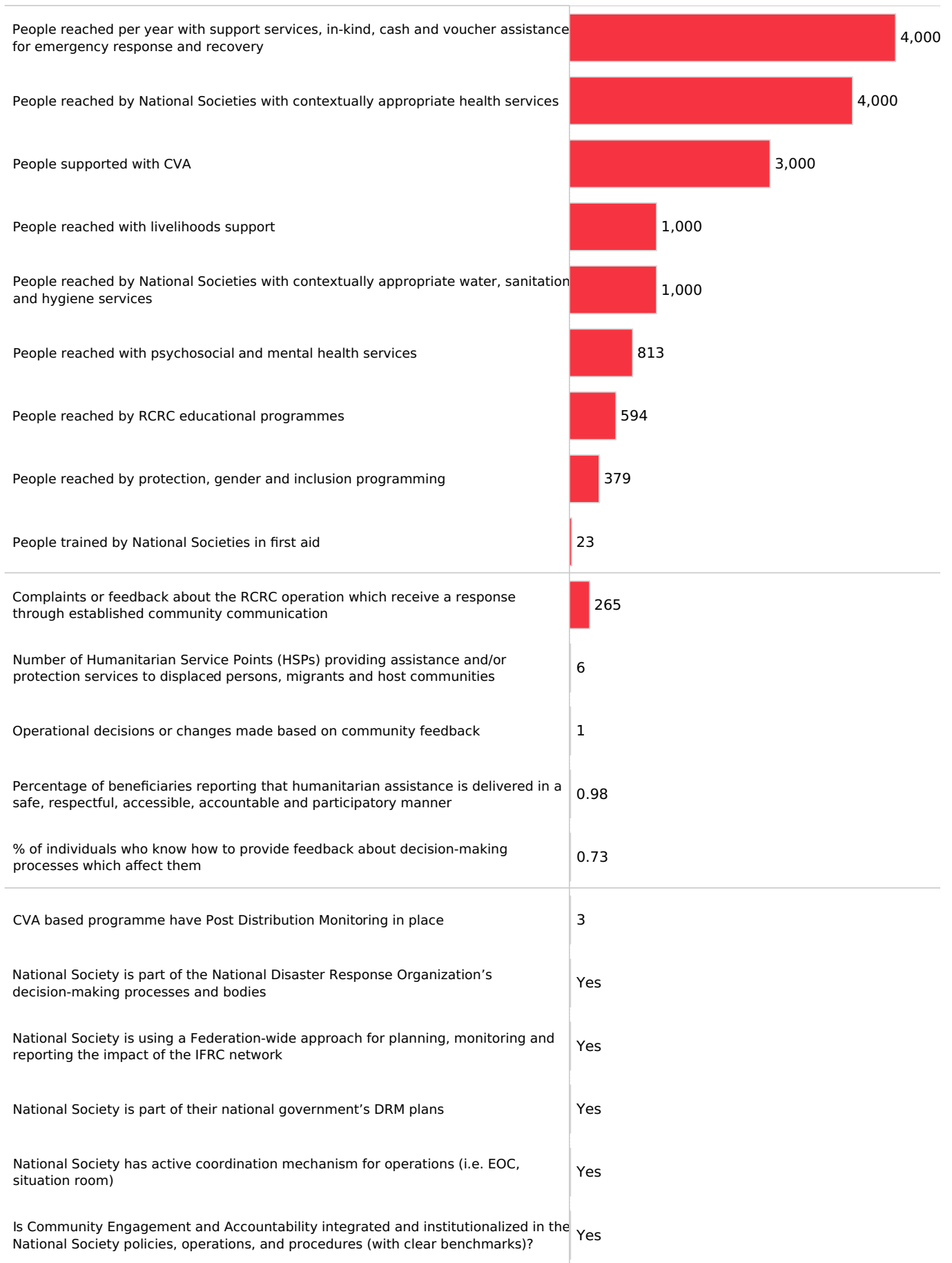
Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

Appeal number **MAAME002**

# ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDR66001 / Ukraine and impacted countries crisis



Data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes
Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information	95%
RCRC staff and volunteers who have been briefed and signed the staff Code of Conduct	130
Volunteers provided with equipment for protection, safety and support (e.g. PSS) appropriate to the emergency	50

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	39,000
Disasters and crises	People reached with livelihoods support	26,000
	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	3,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	670
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	20,000
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	17,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	7,000
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	5,000
	People donating blood	4,000
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	5,000
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	10,000
	People reached by RCRC educational programmes	6,000
	Is Community Engagement and Accountability integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)?	Yes

## ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	5
	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	4
National Society development	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	Yes
	Functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions	Yes

## IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support						Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support Through IFRC
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion			
Australian Red Cross								✓	
Austrian Red Cross	613,000	●						✓	
Belgian Red Cross		●	●						
British Red Cross								✓	
Danish Red Cross								✓	
French Red Cross								✓	
Irish Red Cross Society								✓	
Italian Red Cross	199,000							✓	

Total Funding Reported **CHF 812,000**

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Montenegro, located in Southeast Europe, borders Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, with an exit to the Adriatic Sea. The country serves as a meeting point for various cultural and religious influences, straddling the border of the Orthodox East and Catholic West. Montenegro possesses an upper-middle-income economy with a small yet open structure, aspiring to join the European Union by 2025. However, its economy remains vulnerable to external shocks, relying heavily on capital inflows and an active tourism sector. As the country transitions to a market economy, restructuring state-owned enterprises and analyzing public spending are critical to reducing state costs. Between 2010 and 2019, Montenegro's [Human Development Index](#) value increased from 0.802 to 0.829, placing the country in the very high human development category, ranked 48 among 189 countries and territories.

According to official data from the [Ministry of Interior](#), from 24 February 2022 to 23 January 2023, 91,547 displaced people from Ukraine entered Montenegro. There are 6,962 people from Ukraine currently in the country, representing 1.12 per cent of the total population. Since the escalation of the conflict in Ukraine, 7,861 people have applied for temporary protection in Montenegro.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro contributed to the Risk Management Capacity Assessment for Montenegro and participated in a climate change working group. The National Society also supported the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy (2028-2023) by conducting workshops with teachers and students on crisis response and first aid skills.

### Disasters and crises

During the reporting period, the Red Cross of Montenegro worked with the Flood Resilience Alliance to raise flood awareness, provided [first aid](#) training for children and distributed promotional materials on [disaster risk reduction](#). The National Society also engaged in regional and national training to improve cross-border preparedness and manage emergency stocks in south-eastern Europe.

### Health and wellbeing

For the period January to December 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro reinforced its role as the nation's sole authority for lifeguard training by renewing lifeguard licenses. The National Society strengthened community health by providing [first aid](#) training to its staff and engaging young people in a competition, while also conducting first aid workshops. Additionally, the Red Cross facilitated the collection of blood units, underscoring its commitment to essential healthcare services.

### Migration and displacement

The Red Cross of Montenegro significantly advanced its humanitarian efforts through its involvement in the IFRC's [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), enhancing the safety and dignity of people on migration routes. The National Society delivered essential services to migrants and asylum seekers, including medical care, translation and financial assistance. It supported individuals in reception centres with medical interventions and medicines and provided financial aid to those with international protection and asylum seekers in private accommodations. The Red Cross of Montenegro also offered psychosocial support and facilitated access to rights and services for those seeking international protection. Through regular visits and assistance, the National Society addressed needs in health, education and labour market integration, and employed a cultural mediator and Arabic interpreter to improve communication and support for asylum seekers. Additionally, the Red Cross of Montenegro engaged in regional and national training, developed strategies for resource mobilization and worked on enhancing its preparedness and response capabilities.

## Values, power and inclusion

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro deployed social workers and nurses to assess and support older individuals in rural areas through the 'Addressing and Preventing Care Needs through Innovative Community Care Centres (I-CCC)' project. It established care centres to provide counselling and home visits and deployed volunteers to offer home help services alongside the establishment of self-help groups for informal caregivers. The National Society also developed a dementia progression programme and hosted [healthy ageing](#) workshops. It operated clubs for older people and mobilized teams to deliver care in rural areas. As a licensed home care provider, the Red Cross of Montenegro assisted older individuals in 15 municipalities. Additionally, the National Society made efforts to improve living conditions for Roma and Egyptian communities, provided personal assistance to individuals with disabilities and conducted workshops on humanitarian values and international humanitarian law.

## Enabling local actors

The Red Cross of Montenegro coordinated with the IFRC, ICRC, and other National Societies to enhance humanitarian efforts and resource mobilization. Supported by the Austrian, Italian, and Swiss Red Cross Societies, the National Society advanced its disaster preparedness and health services, focusing on local impact and resource development.

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro revised its [Statutes](#) and prepared an application for the IFRC [Capacity Building Fund](#). It updated its procurement procedures for greater transparency, implemented a revised Code of Ethics with measures for [protection against sexual exploitation and abuse](#) and prepared to launch a customer relationship management platform for better donor engagement. Additionally, the National Society participated in the X-STOCK project, developing a regional stock management strategy and software application to improve cross-border emergency management.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

<b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>	Ukraine and impacted countries crisis
<b>MDR-CODE</b>	MGR65002
<b>DURATION</b>	46 months (28 February 2022 to 31 December 2025)
<b>FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</b>	Total funding requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 800 million</li><li>• Federation-wide: CHF 2.7 billion</li></ul> Funding requirements for Montenegro: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 6 million</li><li>• Federation-wide: CHF 6 million</li></ul>
<b>PEOPLE TO BE ASSISTED</b>	Ukraine: 17 million Neighbouring countries: 5.65 million (Increased from 3.6 million people) In Montenegro: 10,000
<b>Link to Emergency Appeal</b>	<a href="#">Revised Emergency Appeal</a>
<b>Link to Operational Strategy for Montenegro</b>	<a href="#">Montenegro Response Plan</a>
<b>Link to Operation Update</b>	<a href="#">Operation Update No. 9</a>

Since the armed conflict in Ukraine began and escalated over time, humanitarian needs became particularly severe among those who remained at home in conflict prevalent areas and with internally displaced persons (IDPs). At the start of 2023, the number of IDPs within Ukraine was estimated at 5.4 million. The spread of hostilities in Ukraine resulted in over 20.4 million movements out of Ukraine since the escalation of the armed conflict. According to official data from the Ministry of Interior, from the period of 24th February 2022 until 23rd January 2023, 91,547 displaced people from Ukraine entered Montenegro. Currently, there are 6,962 people from Ukraine in the country, which represents 1.12 per cent of the total population of Montenegro comprising 619,211 people. Since the beginning of the escalation of the conflict in Ukraine, 7,861 people have applied for temporary protection in Montenegro.

### **Short description of emergency operational strategy**

A regional operational strategy and a revised Emergency Appeal were developed with the support of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society One Plan for 2023 – 2025. Through this revised Emergency Appeal, the Red Cross of Montenegro has been providing targeted assistance to about 10,000 people. The interventions comprise health and care, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The National Society has been delivering first aid, providing winter assistance for clothing and footwear through cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and one-off multipurpose cash assistance to displaced people from Ukraine. Cross-cutting approaches such as protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) have been integrated into all operations.

For the period, 01 September 2023 to 20 November 2023, the following assistance was provided:

#### **Health and care**

A corrective gymnastics workshop was launched for mental and physical wellbeing of affected communities. Health checks were conducted at humanitarian service points (HSPs)

#### **Mental health and psychosocial support**

Psychosocial support workshops were conducted for displaced people from Ukraine covering topics such as stress management, coping mechanisms, emotion regulation, communication skills, conflict resolution and sociocultural differences between Montenegro and Ukraine.

#### **Multi-purpose cash**

A cash for education project was implemented. Financial assistance was provided to displaced persons from Ukraine as part of winterization plan.

#### **Protection, gender and inclusion**

Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) focused training for trainers was conducted. Language courses and creative workshops for adults and children were conducted.

#### **Community, engagement and accountability**

Feedback was collected from displaced people from Ukraine. Standard operating procedures (SOP) for responding to sensitive feedback was developed.

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**



### **Climate and environment**

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro participated in the development of [the Risk Management Capacity Assessment for Montenegro](#). It also participated in the working group in charge for climate change. Additionally, the National Society contributed to the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy (2028-2023) through several activities, including

workshops with teachers and students focused on crisis and response as well as first aid knowledge and skills.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provided substantial support to the Red Cross of Montenegro with technical assistance in its capacity-building efforts aimed at enhancing resilience to natural hazards and man-made disasters. Additionally, the IFRC supported the National Society in the development of the National Disaster Risk Assessment and the subsequent Risk Management Capacity Assessment. The IFRC's involvement also extended to the creation of the new National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for 2023-2028.



## **Disasters and crises**

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

### **Progress of National Society against objectives**

During the reporting period, the Red Cross of Montenegro carried out activities with the Flood Resilience Alliance, raising awareness about floods, providing first aid training for children, distributing promotional materials and providing information about disaster risk reduction. It also participated in regional and national training to enhance cross-border preparedness through shared management of emergency stocks in South-Eastern Europe.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provided the National Society with technical and financial assistance in the implementation of its interventions. The IFRC mechanism of Emergency Appeal was also utilized to provide assistance to displaced people from Ukraine.



## **Health and wellbeing**

### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro reinforced its role as the nation's sole authority for lifeguard training by renewing lifeguard licenses. The National Society strengthened community health by providing first aid training to its staff.

It also engaged young people in a competition and conducted first aid workshops, reaching 2,320 participants. Additionally,



*Red Cross of Montenegro volunteers conducting a first aid workshop for displaced children from Ukraine in February 2023 (Photo: Red Cross of Montenegro)*

demonstrating its commitment to vital healthcare services, the Red Cross of Montenegro facilitated the collection of 5,989 blood units.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provided the Red Cross of Montenegro with technical and financial assistance in the implementation of its operations.



## **Migration and displacement**

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*The National Society can engage with migrants, displaced persons and host communities to assess, understand and respond to their priority needs more effectively*

### **Progress by National Society against objectives**

Montenegro is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes. The programme aims to support 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.

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro provided essential services to migrants and asylum seekers, including medical care, translation services and financial assistance. It delivered medical interventions, facilitated doctor's check-ups and supplied medicines to individuals in reception centres. Additionally, through financial assistance the National Society supported those with international protection and asylum seekers in private accommodations.

Through the project 'Access to Services for Asylum Seekers and Persons Granted International and Temporary Protection', the Red Cross of Montenegro offered psychosocial support to those seeking international protection. This included provision of information, facilitation of access to rights and communication with institutions and health services. Regular visits and support were extended to individuals in reception centres and private accommodations, addressing their needs in health, education and labor market integration. A cultural mediator and Arabic interpreter enabled direct communication with asylum seekers helping them receive necessary information and support.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provided assistance to the Red Cross of Montenegro in supporting people on the move and people in host communities through its [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#).



## **Values, power and inclusion**

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### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In 2023, the National Society deployed social workers and nurses to visit older people in rural areas, assessing their health conditions and providing essential administrative and social services, through the project 'Addressing and Preventing Care Needs through Innovative Community Care Centres (I-CCC)'. The care centres in Bar and Bijelo Polje offered counselling via telephone consultations and home visits, while the National Society volunteers regularly provided home help services and visited older individuals in these municipalities. The Red Cross of Montenegro also established self-help groups for informal caregivers and developed a programme to slow dementia progression. Additionally, the care centres hosted [healthy ageing workshops](#).

With support from the Italian Red Cross, the National Society operated clubs for older people in five municipalities, organizing weekly meetings. It also mobilized teams of doctors and volunteers to deliver care to older individuals in rural areas. As a licensed provider of home care services, the Red Cross of Montenegro assisted older people in 15 municipalities, helping them maintain their independence in familiar environments.

The Red Cross of Montenegro provided vital assistance to households from Roma and Egyptian communities, aiming to improve their living conditions. The National Society also offered personal assistance to individuals with disabilities,

supporting their independent living. Additionally, it conducted workshops on humanitarian values and international humanitarian law, engaging participants in the promotion of these critical principles.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The **IFRC** provided technical and financial assistance to the Red Cross of Montenegro in the implementation of its operations.

The **Italian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society in the operation of clubs for older people and mobilization of teams of doctors and volunteers to deliver care to older individuals in rural areas.

## **ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS**



### **Strategic and operational coordination**

#### **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 Red Cross of Montenegro is supported by the **Austrian Red Cross**, **Italian Red Cross** and **Swiss Red Cross**.

The **Austrian Red Cross** provides the National Society with support in disaster preparedness, health and social services for older people in their homes as well as resource mobilization. The home care project ended in April 2023, and the resource mobilization project began in July 2023.

The **Italian Red Cross** provides technical and advocacy support and coordinates and monitors programmes and activities. The Italian Red Cross supports the Red Cross of Montenegro in health, social services and migration sectors. It is also committed to supporting the National Society's organizational development, resource mobilization and stock pre-positioning for disaster preparedness.

#### **Movement coordination**

The National Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross 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** regional delegation in Belgrade, Serbia, maintains strong cooperation with the Red Cross of Montenegro. This collaboration, defined by a Partnership Framework Agreement, focuses on capacity building and joint operations in Montenegro. The cooperation includes promoting International Humanitarian Law (IHL) through staff and volunteer training, organizing round tables with relevant stakeholders, supporting the Safer Access Framework approach and conducting restoring family links (RFL) activities.

#### **External coordination**

In line with its mission, the Red Cross of Montenegro is committed to developing and expanding its cooperation with other international humanitarian organizations. The National Society of Montenegro cooperates with the diplomatic-consular sector in Montenegro, as well as with

many international organizations including the EU delegation, the UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, WHO, the USAID and a variety of international networks.

Since 2008, the Red Cross of Montenegro has been a full member of International Life Saving Federation and the only organization in the country that is licensed to conduct courses for lifeguards on water.



## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Red Cross of Montenegro held a corporate fundraiser was held to develop a resource mobilization strategy and prepare an application for the IFRC Capacity Building Fund. The National Society invested in the development of its branches, volunteers and staff, recognizing their critical role as first responders in local communities. To enhance preparedness and strengthen its capacity to respond effectively to current and future crises, the National Society completed the procurement of essential items, including containers, beds, blankets, bed sheets, clothing, heaters and water heaters. Additionally, it revised its [Statutes](#), which were submitted to the [Joint ICRC/IFRC Commission](#) for review.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided financial support to the National Society for its operations. It assisted the Red Cross of Montenegro in pursuing financial sustainability by offering technical guidance for the IFRC [Capacity Building Fund](#) application.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro strengthened its collaboration with key ministries, including the health and social welfare ministries, in keeping with its role as an auxiliary to the public authorities. The National Society took a proactive approach to fortifying partnerships with United Nations agencies, international organizations and local actors in the country, consistently nurturing and reinforcing these relationships. Additionally, the Red Cross of Montenegro engaged in advocacy efforts to enhance its status and public image, particularly at the local level.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in defining its auxiliary role and mandate. It also supported the Red Cross of Montenegro in its advocacy efforts.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Montenegro implemented a revised procurement manual to ensure regularity, transparency and equal treatment across procedures. The National Society also updated its Code of Ethics to include measures for the [prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse and harassment](#). Representatives of the Red Cross of Montenegro completed two levels of certification in investigation of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment through the Core Humanitarian Standards Alliance platform.

The National Society also prepared to develop a customer relationship management platform to strengthen relations with existing donors and attract new ones. Additionally, it participated in the X-STOCK project to enhance cross-border emergency management, developing and testing a regional stock management strategy and a software application for joint regional stock records and management.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the National Society with technical and financial support in the development of a customer relationship management platform and the development and testing of a software application for managing joint regional stock records and a regional stock management strategy.



## 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.

### DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Montenegro 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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