



# TANZANIA

## 2024 IFRC network country plan

3 October 2024

Funding Requirement **CHF 13.3M**

### In support of the Tanzania Red Cross Society



**31**

National Society branches



**445**

National Society staff



**323,393**

National Society volunteers

### People to be reached



**100,000**

Ongoing  
emergency  
operations



**500,000**

Climate and  
environment



**300,000**

Disasters  
and crises



**1.2M**

Health and  
wellbeing



**248,000**

Migration &  
Displacement



**11,000**

Values, power  
and inclusion

### IFRC network multi-year focus

#### Emergency Response

- Hunger crisis • Floods and landslides

#### Longer-term needs

- Disaster risk reduction
- Disaster risk reduction • Anticipatory action
- Epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response • Protracted displacement-related needs
- Livelihoods • Climate change adaptation

#### Capacity development

- Partnerships • Financial sustainability
- Branch development • Youth engagement • Digital transformation • Internal systems strengthening

### Key country data

Population

**65.5M**

INFORM Severity rating

**Medium**

INFORM Climate Risk Index

**Medium**

Human Development Index rank

**160**

Population below poverty level

**26.4%**

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for  
South Sudan, Uganda & Tanzania, Juba

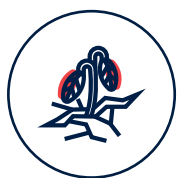
## Hazards



Food insecurity



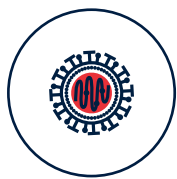
Floods



Droughts



Storms



Disease outbreaks

## Funding requirements

**Total 13.3M** CHF

Through the IFRC

**6.7M** CHF

Through Participating National Societies

**2.7M** CHF

Through Host National Society

**3.9M** CHF

### IFRC Breakdown

**Ongoing emergency operations**

**5.5M** CHF

**Longer-term needs**

**1M** CHF

Climate and environment

**250,000** CHF

Disasters and crises

## Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

British Red Cross\*

Finnish Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society

Kenya Red Cross Society

Spanish Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross\*

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

## IFRC Appeal codes

Ongoing emergency response:

**MGR60001**

Longer-term needs:

**MAATZ002**

# NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

Established in 1962, the **Tanzania Red Cross Society** is a voluntary and independent humanitarian organization which acts as an auxiliary to the public authorities during periods of crises and peace. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1963. Today, it has a network of more than 700 branches and sub-branches, 445 staff, and more than 300,000 volunteers. Since its formation, the National Society has gained the trust and respect from the Government which has enabled it to become one of the preferred disaster response partners in Tanzania.

The National Society is a first responder in emergencies and its staff and volunteers are regularly engaged in search and rescue operations, the provision of first aid (including psychological first aid), pre-hospital care and medical evacuations, and the safe and dignified management of the dead. The staff of the National Society also provide psychosocial support to affected people. To date, the National Society remains a key operator in the ongoing refugee operation in Western Tanzania.

In the past four years, the National Society has conducted a number of self-assessment exercises, including the

organizational capacity assessment and certification (OCAC), which was vital for the National Society to assess its own capacity to exist, organize, relate, mobilize, perform, and grow. The Tanzania Red Cross Society has determined its priorities for developing and improving its general performance and relevance in Tanzania. Along with the improvement of its legal base, review of its constitution, updating its policies and manuals, the National Society has set up a 600 square metre warehouse in central Tanzania (Dodoma) and a stock of non-food items for more than 1,500 families in the region. The National Society has also embarked on the modern first aid training which has been accredited by the International First Aid Accreditation, making the Tanzania Red Cross Society the first National Society in Africa to acquire an IFAA accreditation. As of 2023, the National Society has 75 first aid trainers and 3 master trainers, along with modern first aid training materials.

In 2022, the National Society reached more than 210,000 Tanzanian people through its long-term services and development programmes.

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## IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The United Republic of Tanzania comprises the mainland and the islands of Zanzibar. Extending from Lake Tanganyika in the west to the Indian Ocean in the east, Lake Victoria in the north, and Lake Nyasa and River Ruvuma in the south, the country shares its borders with Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique. Tanzania has a population of more than 65 million, with 44.8 per cent of the population below the age of 15, 52 per cent between the age of 15 and 64, and 3.1 per cent over the age of 64. More than 70 per cent of the population live in rural areas and depend mainly on agriculture for their sustenance. The country has an incredibly diverse population with more than 120 ethnic groups.

Tanzania faces challenges on multiple fronts, compounded by human-induced climate change and armed conflicts. Over the

last few years, poverty in Tanzania has intensified, driven largely by the economic impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic. While agriculture is the economic mainstay of the Tanzanian people, poor harvests have resulted in limited food availability and a reduction of casual on-farm labour opportunities. Between October 2022 and February 2023, the IPC Country Analysis estimated that more than 1.1 million people were experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 28 analyzed district councils of Tanzania Mainland and the five regions of Zanzibar. It projected an increase in the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity. This was attributed largely to inadequate rainfall, which contributed to low production of food crops and livestock, leading to rise in prices and negative impact on food access.

Both natural and human-induced hazards have increased in frequency and scale in Tanzania in recent years. Droughts frequently wreak devastation on the economy, agricultural output, food security and the generation of hydropower. Floods are a regularly occurring natural hazard that can have

widespread impacts. These are worsened by heavy rainfall and rising sea levels, causing devastating impacts on people's health and the economy. They also affect agriculture, food security, groundwater supplies, and hydropower generation. Rising sea levels also threaten coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, as well as affecting groundwater resources and coastal infrastructure. Tanzania's vulnerability to extreme weather events is compounded by its growing population, and its assets are increasingly exposed to adverse natural events. Rapid urbanization and environmental degradation are expected to increase, and climate change is likely to cause a higher frequency and intensity of hydrometeorological disasters. The changing environment has also contributed to the spread of malaria into regions that have historically been unaffected, including Tanga, Kilimanjaro and Arusha Highlands.

The burden of preventable diseases also remains high in Tanzania. Malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are the major causes of death among adults. Among children under five

years of age, malaria, pneumonia and anaemia are the leading causes of death. About 100,000 people die of malaria every year, of whom 65–80 per cent constitute people under the age of five. Malaria is the cause of 40 per cent of outpatient visits to medical centres.

Refugee influx is the largest humanitarian crisis that Tanzania currently faces. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Tanzania hosts about 265,000 refugees from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The refugees are largely accommodated in the Nduta and Nyarugusu camps in the Kigoma region, in the northwest of Tanzania, and some are hosted in urban centres (mainly Dar es Salaam). Refugees in Tanzania remain highly dependent on humanitarian assistance due to restrictive policies and chronic under funding. Gender-based sexual violence is increasingly becoming a common phenomenon in camps and some tribal settings.



*Tanzania Red Cross Society volunteer raising community awareness about epidemic disease prevention in Bukoka, 16 March 2023.  
(Photo: Tanzania Red Cross Society)*

# ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, visit [IFRC GO Tanzania](#)

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<b>Emergency Operation</b>	<a href="#">Revised Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal 2023-2024</a>
<b>Appeal number</b>	MGR60001
<b>Duration</b>	31 December 2023 to 31 December 2024
<b>People affected</b>	157 million
<b>Funding requirement</b>	Total funding requirements through the Appeal: CHF 232.5 million Total Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 318 million Funding requirement for Tanzania for 2024: CHF 2.5 million
<b>Link to Emergency Appeal</b>	<a href="#">Revised Africa Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal</a>
<b>Link to Operational Strategy</b>	<a href="#">Africa Hunger Crisis Operational Strategy</a>

At a time of intense global humanitarian need and competing demands, Sub-Saharan Africa is experiencing one of the most alarming food crises in decades. Roughly 146 million people - a figure approaching half the entire population of the United States - are suffering from acute food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance. Hunger is one of the most undignified sufferings of humanity and has severe repercussions on African communities who face multiple shocks, compromising their lives, livelihoods, and prospects. Driven by a complex interplay of insecurity and armed conflict, extreme weather events, climate variability, and negative macroeconomic conditions, this crisis is distinct in its magnitude and geographic scope. As such, it requires an exceptional mobilization and a massive effort by all concerned institutions and states to address the drivers that underpin food insecurity in Africa.

A deterioration of the food security in a number of countries in Africa prompted the IFRC to launch a Regional Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal in October 2022. Due to the prolonged and deepening food crisis across the region and an urgent need to sustain and increase resources, this Regional Emergency Appeal, Africa Hunger Crisis, has been extended until the end of 2024, in order to continue to provide an overarching structure for hunger crisis responses across the continent. Angola has faced not only consecutive years of drought conditions in parts

of the southern provinces—the worst in the last 40 years in some areas—but also heavy rains near its capital Luanda, leading to severe flooding and high food prices which continue to drive food insecurity.

This Revised Regional Emergency Appeal is built on a foundation of strong, national country response plans, and through a series of coordinated activities in the sectors of WASH, cash, health and nutrition, and livelihoods support. This will ensure that National Societies in the region meet the urgent needs of people facing what has been classed as a Red level Emergency in many countries of the region. The appeal is fully aligned with the IFRC's Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative, which informs the long-term food security and livelihood plans of National Societies in Africa.

The operational strategy integrates community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) as pivotal elements, in an approach that recognizes and values all community members as equal partners, with their diverse needs shaping the response. Activities span from adhering to PGI standards in emergencies to promoting non-violence and peace. The strategy emphasizes local voice amplification, collaborative engagement, and transparent communication, extending into long-term resilience building through initiatives such as the IFRC Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative



<b>Emergency Operation</b>	<a href="#">TZA: 2023 Floods and Landslides</a>
<b>Appeal number</b>	MDRTZ035
<b>Duration</b>	7/12/2023 to 31/12/2024
<b>People affected</b>	75,000
<b>Funding requirement</b>	Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 4 million IFRC Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 3 million
<b>Link to Emergency Appeal</b>	<a href="#">Tanzania Floods Emergency Appeal</a>
<b>Link to Operational Strategy</b>	<a href="#">Tanzania Floods Operational Strategy</a>

In November 2023, torrential rains brought severe flooding to Tanzania and caused numerous fatalities and destruction of infrastructure in Dar Es Salaam, Kigoma, Kagera, Geita and Unguja. On 3 December alone torrential rains caused massive landslides near Mount Hanang, Manyara region, in northern Tanzania, which affected nearly 44,000 people. The floods swept away houses, roads and bridges, killing at least 68 people killed and injuring 116. Thousands of families lost their homes and were sheltered in public buildings and with host families. As of this period, at least 1,150 households, representing 5,600 people, have been destroyed, with 750 acres of farmland inundated.

The damage and loss of life are expected to increase as the true extent of the disaster is understood and as more areas are accessed by search and rescue teams. Rescue operations were conducted with the help of the military as people were feared buried in thick mud, and the extent of mudslides have made retrieval of bodies and delivery of aid challenging. Telecommunication was also disrupted. As most of the population depends on agriculture and livestock, the flood had a severe impact on people's livelihoods. This inadvertently has

heightened the risk of increased food insecurity in a country that has seen a spike in food insecurity and malnutrition in 2023 (over 60 per cent increase).

Guided by the Tanzania National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy 2022-2027, the National Disaster Communication Strategy 2022, the National Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan 2022, and the district 6 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans, the National Society is working to ensure effective coordination during the response. The National Society has analyzed and mapped stakeholders who will be involved in disaster risk management with their roles and responsibilities according to the El Niño Contingency Plan 2023. Currently, the response is coordinated at the regional and district levels, chaired by a regional commissioner at the regional level and district commissioner at the district level. The Tanzania Red Cross Society is taking the lead on supporting the distribution of essential household items, search and rescue, psychosocial support to affected people in evacuation centres, provision of first aid to the injured, as well as hygiene awareness.

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



## Climate and environment

Tanzania's topographical diversity gives rise to four distinct climatic zones: the coastal area and immediate hinterland, the central plateau, the semi-temperate highland areas, and the high moist lake regions. The country ranks 33rd among the countries most vulnerable to climate risks because of four factors: rising temperatures, longer dry spells, intense rainfall, and rise in sea level. In the last 30 years, monthly minimum and maximum temperatures have steadily increased, while at the same time, annual rainfall has slightly declined in most parts of the country. Shifts in rainfall patterns, especially intra-seasonal and inter-annual late onset and early cessation of rain, have also led to an increase in dry spells. These changes in temperature and precipitation have impacted the hydro-ecological systems in Tanzania. Records of water levels of Lake Tanganyika and water flow of the rivers of Pangani, Malagarasi, and Wami-Ruvu indicate a decline, putting further pressure on limited freshwater resources.

Along with slow onset of hydro-ecological changes, climate change-related extreme weather events such as droughts and floods are a key concern for the country. The many low-lying areas and the river valleys in Tanzania are particularly vulnerable to flooding. Tanzania has experienced several episodes of flooding in recent years with adverse impacts such as destruction of infrastructure, for example, the railway line in Kilosa and Dar es Salaam, and increased outbreaks of water- and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria and diarrheal diseases.

The country's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) estimates that Tanzania's population will reach more than 64 million in 2024. With more than 75 per cent of the population in urban areas living in informal settlements, the Tanzanian people are increasingly at a risk of facing water scarcity, frequent floods, and extreme heatwaves. In rural areas, the population is largely dependent on rain-fed agriculture. Yields for critical crops, including maize, beans, sorghum, and rice are projected to decrease in the coming decades, endangering livelihoods, and food security. Rural population also has limited access to healthcare.

In the context of growing concerns about the negative impacts of climate change and climate variability on the country's social, economic, and physical environment, the Tanzanian Government designed the National Climate Change Response Strategy 2021–2026. The strategy seeks to promote nationwide tree planting programmes and initiatives and aims to plant at least two million trees per year under the national tree planting programme.

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

The Tanzania Red Cross Society 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; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

A key objective of the National Society is to strengthen community-based resilience programmes and climate change adaptation. The National Society is also committed to the IFRC Pan-African Tree Planting and Care initiative and will contribute to tree planting programmes and carbon financing.

## Planned activities in 2024

- Use the branch and sub-branch network to conduct tree planting campaigns across the country
- Revive programme of Red Cross branches in primary and secondary schools to encourage environmental conservation campaigns
- Mobilize funds from various stakeholders to facilitate the purchase and care of trees that will be planted through regional branches and sub-branches

## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide the Tanzania Red Cross Society technical and financial support to help develop climate risk management plans, strategies and guidelines, and integrate climate-smart activities into projects and the management of emergency operations. The IFRC will also work with the Tanzania Red Cross Society to increase its participation in the climate risk forum, platform, and management meetings organized by governmental authorities and meteorological agencies. Additionally, the IFRC will support the Tanzania Red Cross Society to scale up food security and livelihood programmes in five semi-arid regions, to address food shortages and droughts.

The **American Red Cross** is currently supporting the implementation of a climate change project known as the Coastal City Heat Action Project (CoCHAP) in two cities. This five-year project funded by the USAID aims at creating preparedness action for urban residents to fight extreme heat weather events.

The **Finnish Red Cross** will support a collaboration between the Tanzania Red Cross Society and a Tanzanian government agency to develop early warning early action mechanisms with communities potentially at risk and those who experience cyclic hazards.



## Disasters and crises

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

Tanzania is exposed to multiple hazards including floods, drought, cyclones, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and earthquakes, all of which have the potential cause to severe impacts on social and economic services, ecology, environment, and health. The country has been experiencing an increase in incidences and scale of natural hazards. Considering the diverse geographical coverage and differences in physical, social, weather, and economic characteristics, different parts of the country are vulnerable to different types of disasters. Furthermore, the country's vulnerability is compounded by population growth, with assets increasingly exposed to climatic hazards, a trend which is likely to worsen with rapid urbanization and environmental degradation.

From October to December 2023, Tanzania saw localized flooding across various regions due to heavy rainfall. By November, the flooding led to an increased number of deaths and major damages to infrastructure in locations such as Dar es Salaam, Kigoma, Kagera, Geita, and Unguja. According to the update received from the Government, more than 10,000 people (2,018 households) were affected by the flood, with 1,245 houses completely decimated by the flood and causing the death of 12 people.

The 2023 floods and landslides were preceded by one of the most devastating tropical storms and cyclones in the form of Tropical Storm Jobo in 2021 in Tanzania. Heavy rains and strong winds led to flash floods, affecting more than 6,000 households (30,000 people) and causing the death of 22. A total of 4,951 households were displaced while 1,050 other displaced households were moved into temporary camps. With climate change impacts worsening each year, the humanitarian needs in the country are bound to increase, stressing the need for greater interventions.

There is a low level of public investment in disaster risk reduction activities in Tanzania, compared with its spending on responses to disasters. Response and relief activities are financed mainly through domestic resources, while mitigation and prevention and preparedness activities are financed mostly by donors. There are also challenges involved in implementing officially agreed disaster risk management policies.

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

The Tanzania Red Cross Society has invested in disaster preparedness for effective response to different hazards. The National Society has integrated disaster risk reduction measures to ensure that communities are well prepared and that disaster risks are minimized and their resilience to disasters are increased. The National Society is committed to ensuring that disaster risks are reduced through engaging the community to identify risks and propose community-based solutions by using different approaches like enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment (eVCA), risk mapping contingency plan, among others.

The wide spectrum of the National Society interventions requires constant improvements in both its disaster risk management cycle and internal capacities. This is in line with the IFRC Pan-African Red Ready initiative, which aims to strengthen disaster operations management, coordination and accountability. It also works to promote the localization of humanitarian response by strengthening the capacity of local branches and volunteers. The Tanzania Red Cross Society will also strengthen and facilitate peer-to-peer support and collaboration with other National Societies in the region, by actively participating in the existing Disaster Management platform.

### Planned activities in 2024

- Mainstream protection gender inclusion (PGI) in emergencies and community engagement and accountability (CEA) in disaster and risk management undertakings
- Strengthen institutional disaster preparedness and risk management capacity through training
- Mainstream cash transfer modality in programmes and emergency operations
- Preposition personal protective equipment, shelter kits, and marine safety gears at strategic locations for disaster response



- Scale up food security and livelihood programs in 5 semi-arid regions to address food shortage and dry
- Activate and establish action teams at the branch level for effective disaster response in 31 regions

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide financial and technical support to the National Society to enhance its preparedness and readiness to anticipate and respond to crisis in a timely, appropriate, and accountable manner. It will provide technical support across the pillars of the preparedness for effective

response. It will also provide expertise and support to develop and resource anticipatory action system building including forecast analysis, readiness (contingency planning), early warning and early actions.

The **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** supports the National Society in disaster response projects through crisis modifiers, and supports cash preparedness activities and the implementation of cash projects.

The **Kenya Red Cross Society**, as a neighbouring National Society, provides in risk communication and community engagement projects.



## Health and wellbeing

Tanzania has experienced significant progress in the health sector, with life expectancy increasing from 59 years in 2010 to 66 in 2021. This progress is attributed to decline in adult and child mortality due to improvements in the distribution of basic healthcare services. However, the burden of disease due to preventable causes still remains high. Challenges remain in reducing maternal mortality (which stands at 556 per 100,000 live births) and tackling the stagnation of neonatal mortality (which accounts for more than 52 per cent of deaths under the age of five). While the improvement in maternal and child mortality has been significant, it remains below expectation. More than 50 per cent of women aged 19 in Tanzania are either mothers or are expecting, thus increasing their vulnerability to sexual and reproductive health complications. Non-communicable diseases, including mental health problems, are straining Tanzania's limited human, financial, and medicinal resources, and are becoming a major cause of morbidity and mortality.

Among the adult population in Tanzania, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis are the major causes of death. Malaria, pneumonia, and anaemia are the leading causes of mortality among children under five years of age. About 100,000 people die of malaria each year, of whom more than 65-80 per cent are under the age of five. Outbreaks of zoonotic diseases, mainly anthrax, have been reported in areas such as Ngorongoro and Longido in the Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions. These regions have also reported cases of rabies, which is believed to be responsible for an estimated 1,500 deaths per year across Tanzania.

Tanzania is among the countries affected by the viral haemorrhagic diseases (VHD) outbreak. Recently, the country conducted Ebola virus disease (EVD) preparedness and also responded to the Marburg virus disease (MVD) which affected the Kagera region. The outbreak response and recovery took about four months to be completed. Necessary intervention

took place including training of volunteers and preposition of materials.

Access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities is crucial for public health, environmental sustainability, and overall well-being. In Tanzania, progress has been made in improving water and sanitation infrastructure, but challenges persist, particularly in rural areas and underserved communities.

In 2022, the Tanzanian government reported cholera cases in Uvinza in the Kigoma region and Tanganyika in the Katavi region. The outbreak quickly spread to other areas along the shores of Lake Tanganyika. Most of the affected locations were fishing villages with densely populated areas that have poor sanitation practices including open defecation, and poor access to clean and safe water. The outbreak occurred during the rainy season, which created a high risk of spreading to other hotspots within Kigoma and Katavi.

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

A key focus for the National Society will be to provide both preventative and comprehensive community-based health services to vulnerable communities, and implement blood donor recruitment activities and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) initiatives. It will also facilitate community-based health sensitization referrals, links and support to target populations, including in the area of male circumcision and tailored support for orphans and vulnerable children.

The National Society will increase its engagement and advocacy with national and local authorities for the better allocation of resources according to need. It will also coordinate with the Government and stakeholders to map community capacities and identify gaps in services. It will focus on enhancing the capacity of communities to prepare for and identify the early

warning signs of disease and implement a strong response. Partner mapping will also be conducted to improve the coordination and collaboration of response interventions.

Working towards increased community resilience, the Tanzania Red Cross Society will encourage community participation in assessments, project design, implementation, and monitoring for community-centred health programming.

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### Planned activities in 2024

- Conduct capacity building exercises for community health based on the newly revised curriculum of community health workers
- Continue supporting community volunteers by providing health insurance which will cover their health cost emergencies at work
- Continue to encourage community participation in assessments, project design, implementation, and monitoring [community-centred health programming](#)
- Continue to promote [WASH](#) community guidelines through training and construct facilities to improve water and sanitation facilities in Tanzania
- Conduct training for blood recruit donors which includes counselling, recalling of repeat donors, review of policy and guidelines, among others
- Conduct [training on first aid](#)

- Support vulnerable population under reproductive and child health and provide support to orphans and vulnerable children

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### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide technical and financial support to the Tanzania Red Cross Society in implementing its programmes under healthcare initiatives. The National Society will be supported with materials, engagement of contractors to construct WASH facilities, technical guidelines, and training/coaching of staff and volunteers. In healthcare emergencies, the National Society will be supported in its urgent humanitarian efforts through the deployment of the IFRC disaster response emergency fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) to address the humanitarian needs in the affected regions. In terms of equitable provisioning of healthcare services, the National Society will support vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities (PWD), adolescents, women and girls, older persons, and persons of concern (POCs) who are deprived of their liberties. It will promote inclusion of health within overall planning and policy making and ensure effective collaboration in health and nutrition.

The Spanish Red Cross provides support to the National Society in implementing the Uzazi Salama project based around sexual reproductive health and safe delivery of child. This is a one-year project based at Kakonko districts in Kigoma.



## Migration and displacement

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Over the past few decades, Tanzania has served as a host country for refugees from its neighbouring countries such as Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Rwanda. The influx of refugee population has been driven largely by factors such as armed conflict, civil wars, and ethnic violence. Some refugees are forced to leave their countries due to political persecution. This includes individuals and groups targeted for their political beliefs, activism, or affiliation with opposition movements. The refugees are accommodated in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps in the Kigoma region, northwest of Tanzania. A small population is also hosted in urban centres, mainly in Dar es Salaam. Due to the protracted refugee situation, restrictive policies, and chronic underfunding, the refugee population in Tanzania remains highly dependent on humanitarian assistance.

As of May 2023, the total population in Nyarugusu and Nduta refugee camps are estimated to be 214,553, which consists of both Congolese and Burundian refugees. Most Burundian

refugees in Tanzania fled Burundi in 2015, following [deadly clashes](#) surrounding the presidential election. In 2019, the Governments of Tanzania and Burundi and the UNHCR signed a tripartite agreement to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees back to their country. According to UNHCR, over 140,000 Burundian refugees have voluntarily returned since September 2017.

Migrants in Tanzania have reported exploitation, physical and emotional abuse and many are poorly paid. Some become victims of human trafficking. They are also at risk of being prosecuted by the authorities, which can lead to imprisonment. The practice of encampment has resulted in prolonged dependency on humanitarian assistance. Through the leadership of the Refugees Service Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), supported by the UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies, the refugees and asylum seekers in the country are provided access to primary healthcare, referrals for secondary and tertiary healthcare, HIV

prevention care and treatment, reproductive health services, food security and nutrition, mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)), sanitation, and hygiene services.

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

In the coming years, the National Society will work to ensure that emergency health and nutrition preparedness and response is realized for refugee emergencies and disease outbreaks. It will work to ensure that comprehensive health services are assured through a functional referral mechanism. Through the National Society's interventions, refugee participation, consultation, and empowerment will be strengthened and that refugee communities are engaged in and benefit from a strong community health approach adapted to camp settings. the National Society will conduct activities to restore family links for people of concern and their family support networks.

#### Planned activities in 2024

- Promote and support equitable provision of healthcare services
- Strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration with the UNHCR and with partners to create synergies and maximize positive impact on the health status, welfare, and dignity of refugees and other displaced people

- Actively engage communities in activities to promote and sustain their physical and mental health
- Continue to support, monitor, and advocate for access of refugees and other vulnerable people to essential health service throughout the displacement cycle

#### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide the National Society with financial and technical support for the humanitarian needs and gaps identified by the National Society. These include interventions in food and nutrition, shelter and housing, [clean water and sanitation](#), healthcare and medical services, protection and safety of vulnerable populations, access to education, livelihoods and economic support, access to information, and to secure funding for the National Society's initiatives. The IFRC will enhance the National Society's collaboration with the Government, humanitarian organizations, local communities, and donors to effectively address humanitarian needs.

The **Spanish Red Cross** will integrate [restoring family links](#) activities into all emergency preparedness and response activities and build the capacity of people to be focal points in regional branches.



## Values, power and inclusion

Gender inequality remains a key issue in Tanzania. Leadership roles are mostly dominated by men, limiting the space to discuss matters related to women's welfare. Lack of adequate income denies women the ability to own assets, and a lack of knowledge and awareness of property rights enables discrimination and other forms of violence. Although Tanzania's constitution guarantees equal rights to property ownership, a lack of awareness and illiteracy leads to denial of women's rights to inherit property. Additionally, customary inheritance law also prevents widows from owning the property of their deceased husbands.

Among women aged 15–49, 44 per cent have experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner. Spousal violence is more prevalent in rural areas, where 52 per cent of women on average have been victimized, compared with 45 per cent of women in urban areas. Other marginalized groups require specific attention in times of emergencies, due to risks of increased vulnerability and obstacles to accessing support.

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

The Tanzania Red Cross Society recognizes community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)) as a way working that recognizes and values all community members as equal partners. The National Society will integrate meaningful community participation, facilitate open and honest communication, establish mechanisms to listen and act on feedback, so that the National Society's actions are guided by the diverse needs, priorities, and preferences of the community. The National Society has established and rolled out the CEA to collect public feedback and respond to issues arising from the operations conducted by the Tanzania Red Cross Society. It will use community ideas and feedback to improve its services in the long run. The Tanzania Red Cross Society also plans to enhance its capacity to mainstream protection, gender and inclusion approaches in disaster risk management projects.

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## Planned activities in 2024

- Build relationships with local communities through a strategic community engagement process as key sustainability strategy for all National Society projects
- Build community capacity using the CEA approach
- Strengthen feedback channels to respond to community feedback
- Support the Government in developing and finalization community health workers' new curriculum
- Provide technical support to the Government in six-month formal training to all community health workers
- Continue developing specific procedures and referrals to provide comprehensive and holistic care for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence
- Conduct orientation for volunteers and staff on [IFRC minimum standards](#) around protection, gender and

inclusion in emergencies, including the 'do no harm' principle

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## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC support will include core areas such as advocating with the National Society leadership for integrating community engagement and accountability across operations (into annual plans, policies, and budgets), development of CEA policy and strategy, allocation of funds for CEA, promoting a culture of accountability, enhancing community engagement, adopting key performance indicators to measure the National Society's accountability to communities, driving localization agenda of the IFRC, among others.

The **Spanish Red Cross** will support the National Society's activities to build the capacity of volunteers and stakeholders to better engage in protection, gender and inclusion interventions.

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## ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Tanzania Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2018. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Tanzania Red Cross Society is also committed

to the [Preparedness for Effective Response](#) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.



## Strategic and operational coordination

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

- Increase engagement in government-led platforms to achieve the National Society's humanitarian and development goals
- Participate in country-level planning processes to ensure that the support of local actors aligns with the goals of the National Society, along with Movement standards
- Support the Government in developing disaster contingency plans and contribute to technical meetings on disaster response
- Strengthen partnerships and networking within and outside of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

- Trigger new modalities towards resource mobilization

## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will coordinate and facilitate new partnerships that enable the scaling up of environmental actions, including the planting and care of multi-purpose trees. To champion the [IFRC Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative](#), the IFRC will ensure representation at strategic events and fora. It will also support the National Society in strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration, to enable a more effective response to disease outbreaks and address their underlying causes and secondary impacts.



## National Society development

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

- Align organizational development priorities and plans with the [National Society development compact](#)
- Develop the new National Society strategic plan for 2025-2030 reflecting its top priorities
- Enhance National Society's financial sustainability
- Ensure that governance and leadership have control over policy issues, and that there is a strong and well-motivated management structure
- Conduct assessments at branches and prepare branch development plans to better address service delivery and identify gaps in the sustainability of systems and services

- Strengthen volunteer management by establishing a volunteer database and providing insurance for volunteers

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

**The IFRC** will provide technical and financial support to the National Society in aligning its objectives with global best practices. The National Society's development of a new strategic development plan will be supported by the IFRC as well as its initiatives towards building the overall capacity of its staff and volunteers.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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

- Conduct advocacy among key decision-makers in Government on the support needed for vulnerable people in Tanzania
- Engage media houses and journalists for the publication of articles, news stories, and documentaries about the National Society's interventions
- Promote humanitarian values, encourage the culture of volunteerism, and disseminate information on the Fundamental Principles

- Participate in various exhibitions and events to increase the National Society's visibility
- Work on the dissemination of the National Society's emblems

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

**The IFRC** will continue to support the National Society in its humanitarian diplomacy efforts, ensuring that it is recognized as an impartial and neutral humanitarian actor. To this end, support will also be extended to expand its communications unit.





## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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

- Increase institutional awareness on the importance of PGI and protection against SGBV through online refresher courses for National Society staff and volunteers
- Mainstream community engagement and accountability (CEA), alongside protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), in all activities
- Conduct internal and external financial audits
- Enhance the National Society's digital transformation by strengthening its information and communications technology facilities
- Strengthen the internal audit and risk management unit to manage risks and ensure donor compliance

- Strengthen support functions, including planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER), public relations and communications, information and communications technology, logistics and legal services

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

**The IFRC** will continue to provide financial and technical support to the National Society in staff and volunteer development, the regular review of organizational policies and procedures, and in fostering a culture of accountability. The IFRC will also continue to support the National Society in developing effective planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER).

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## THE IFRC NETWORK

### The IFRC

**The IFRC** supports the Tanzania Red Cross Society through its country cluster delegation for South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania, which is based in Juba, South Sudan. The IFRC staff frequently visit Tanzania to ensure optimal support. In times of emergencies, surge staff are deployed to support operational management or to provide specific expertise. The IFRC support to the Tanzania Red Cross Society centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including in strengthening its auxiliary role. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Tanzania Red Cross Society through multiple DREF operations in relation to tropical storms and cyclones, floods, food insecurity, earthquakes, election preparedness, accidents and disease outbreaks, including cholera and preparedness for the Ebola virus disease affecting neighbouring Uganda. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IFRC, through its global Emergency Appeal, has supported the National Society in its COVID-19 response.

## 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 Tanzania Red Cross Society is part of the four [IFRC Pan-African Initiatives](#) focusing on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready and National Society Development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

The Tanzania Red Cross Society has long-term partnerships with the following National Societies:

The **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** is present in Tanzania and has been partnering with the Tanzania Red Cross Society for many years. It has contributed to disaster response projects through crisis modifiers, and supported cash preparedness activities. The Belgian Red Cross (Flanders) currently focuses its support on enabling the National Society's contribution to Tanzania's National Climate Adaptation Plan, and on health interventions such as first aid and blood donation.

The **Finnish Red Cross** supports early warning early action activities and anticipatory action.







The **Kenya Red Cross Society**, as a neighbouring National Society, provides support in risk communication and community engagement projects.

The **Spanish Red Cross** is present in Tanzania and supports community-based health; water, sanitation and hygiene; and blood donations. It also supports the integration of restoring family links services with emergency preparedness, and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI).



*The Tanzania Red Cross Society provides cash, food, and jerrycans to support families and children suffering from food insecurity.  
(Photo: Tanzania Red Cross Society)*

## Participating National Society Support

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
American Red Cross							
Finnish Red Cross	165,000						
Japanese Red Cross Society	60,000						
Kenya Red Cross Society	2M						
Spanish Red Cross	434,000						

Total Funding requirement

**2.7M**

## Movement coordination

The Tanzania Red Cross Society 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, through its regional delegation in Kenya, promotes international humanitarian law and carries out humanitarian activities in Tanzania.

## Coordination with other actors

The Tanzania Red Cross Society works closely with the Government, mostly the Ministry of Health and the Prime Minister's office, in the area of disaster management. The Prime Minister's disaster management department coordinates the work of key humanitarian actors in the country, and it is where local and UN partners meet to coordinate their humanitarian activities.

The Tanzania Red Cross Society acts in accordance with the Disaster Management Act, which stipulates the coordination levels of various actors. The coordination at the regional level is carried out by the regional administrative secretary's office, as chairman of the regional disaster committee. At the district level, the district executive director is responsible for coordination.

The National Society has a strong partnership with the Tanzania Meteorological Agency through the Global Framework for Climate Services project. This provides early warning information and rainfall forecasts to inform

community disaster risk reduction planning. The National Society also works with other departments on climate change adaptation strategies and policies. When major accidents occur, the National Society contributes to search and rescue operations alongside the Tanzania People's Defence Force, the police force and the fire brigade.

The Tanzania Red Cross Society holds regular stakeholder meetings which bring together Movement and external partners. This includes UN agencies UNHCR, WFP and UNFPA, and government ministries including the Ministry of Home Affairs, and authorities such as the Tanzania Meteorological Agency. The National Society also has a broad partnership base with traditional and non-traditional partners. These include UN agencies UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA as well as the European Union, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Africa CDC and Pathfinder International. The National Society has also worked closely with UNHCR on the refugee programme, to improve general camp management and lead on health activities.



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

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