



# ZIMBABWE

2023 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

24 October 2024

## IN SUPPORT OF THE ZIMBABWE RED CROSS SOCIETY



**152**

National Society branches



**160**

National Society local units



**20,000**

National Society volunteers



**177**

National Society staff

## PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency Operations



**3,500**

Climate and environment



**19,188**

Disasters and crises



**20,000**

Health and wellbeing



**50,400**

Migration and displacement



**141,054**

Values, power and inclusion



**560**

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

|                                  |                      |                           |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Country                          | Funding Requirement  | 19.6M                     |
| IFRC Secretariat                 | Emergency Operations | Funding Requirement: 12M  |
|                                  |                      | Funding: 2.2M             |
|                                  |                      | Expenditure: 1.4M         |
|                                  | Longer-term          | Funding Requirement: 6.2M |
|                                  |                      | Funding: 2.5M             |
|                                  |                      | Expenditure: 1.1M         |
| Participating National Societies | Funding Requirement  | 1.2M                      |
|                                  | Funding              | 559,000                   |
|                                  | Expenditure          | 1.4M                      |
| HNS other funding sources        | Funding Requirement  | 300,000                   |
|                                  | Funding              | 619,000                   |

### Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding 2.9M

Expenditure *Not reported*

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat 1.7M

Participating National Societies 545,000



HNS other funding sources 619,000

Appeal number **MAAZW002**





In addition to: CHF 2M Funding requirement for newly launched emergency appeals+ CHF 709,000 DREF Funding

# ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRZW021 / Cholera Emergency Appeal

|   |  |       |
|---|--|-------|
| People reached for cholera Response per year and per country (Axe 1, and 2) , DREF, APPEAL, One wash, reports, CSP, CP3, Anticipatory action... AFTER MAPPING |  | 4,000 |
| People covered with activities that aim at increase of knowledge and awareness of cholera and AWD symptoms and common means of transmission                   |  | 4,000 |
| Percentage increase of Target Population with knowledge on the preparation and use of Oral Rehydration Solution or Salts (ORS)                                | 0.2  |       |
| Percentage of target population reached with health promotion as a response to an emergency   | 10%  |       |

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

|                             |   |   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Climate and environment     | Developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks?   | Yes   |
|                             | Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?  | Yes   |
|                             | Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?   | Yes   |
|                             | People reached with activities to address environmental problems  |  3,000   |
|                             | People reached with activities to address rising climate risks  |  19,000  |
| Disasters and crises        | People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery   |  20,000  |
|                             | People reached with disaster risk reduction   |  10,000  |
|                             | People reached with livelihoods support   |  10,000  |
|                             | Percentage of humanitarian assistance delivered using cash and vouchers   | 20%   |
| Health and wellbeing        | People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services   |  2,000   |
|                             | People reached with immunization services   |  50,000  |
|                             | People trained by National Societies in first aid   |  22,000  |
| Migration and displacement  | Data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move?                                  | Yes   |
|                             | Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection  |  141,000 |
|                             | Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) that provided assistance and/or protection to people on the move along land based migration routes                   | 5   |
| Values, power and inclusion | Is Community Engagement and Accountability integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)? | Yes   |
|                             | People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming  | 560   |

## ENABLING FUNCTIONS

|                              |   |     |
|------------------------------|---|-----|
| National Society development | National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers   | Yes |
|                              | One National Society Development plan in place  | Yes |
|                              | Youth engagement strategy developed or in place   | Yes |
| Accountability and agility   | 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 |
|                              | National Society has a PSEA Action Plan to enforce prevention and support survivors (cumulative)  | Yes |
|                              | National Society has a PSEA policy to enforce prevention and support survivors (cumulative)   | Yes |

## IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

|                            | 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 |   |                    |                                   |
| National Society           |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   |                    |                                   |
| American Red Cross         |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   | ✓                  |                                   |
| British Red Cross          | 556,000          | ●                       | ●                    |                      |                            | ●                           | ● |                    |                                   |
| Danish Red Cross           | 669,000          | ●                       | ●                    | ●                    |                            | ●                           |   |                    |                                   |
| Finnish Red Cross          | 1.7M             | ●                       | ●                    | ●                    |                            | ●                           |   |                    |                                   |
| Japanese Red Cross Society |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   | ✓                  |                                   |
| Netherlands Red Cross      |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   | ✓                  |                                   |
| Norwegian Red Cross        |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   | ✓                  |                                   |
| Swedish Red Cross          |                  |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |   | ✓                  |                                   |

Total Funding Reported **CHF 2.9M**

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

In 2023, Zimbabwe experienced a [cholera outbreak](#) in the Chegutu town in Mashonaland West Province. Due to the disease's high rate of transmission, it quickly affected multiple geographical areas, spreading to more than 17 traditional cholera hotspot districts and putting at risk over 10 million people, including more than five million children. The Government's capacity to respond to the outbreak was stretched due to the high number of admissions, lack of human resources to manage the caseload, and lack of cholera supplies, including disinfection liquids to stop the transmission.

Unfavourable climactic conditions in Zimbabwe contribute to disease outbreaks such as cholera, measles, malaria, diarrhoea, and typhoid. The general populace of Zimbabwe, especially in rural areas, are disproportionately affected by a lack of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities which generates a significant disease burden on the country. Social protection programmes to aid communities that come from the government, non-governmental organizations and remittances mainly focus on food assistance and crop input support.

Zimbabwe is also experiencing profound food insecurity, with 33 per cent of people consuming insufficient food. A projected 38 percent of rural households are cereal insecure at the peak of the lean season which spans from October to December. The factors that drive food insecurity are multifaceted and mutually reinforcing such as the ongoing macroeconomic challenges, pandemic-related disruptions to global supply chains, and global rises in the price of food, fuel and fertilizers. Fluctuations in exchange rates are also expected to contribute to the rising costs of goods and services for Zimbabweans. According to the [Zimbabwe food security outlook](#), the country will continue to be affected by the food security crisis as well as by [general political](#) and [economic instability](#).

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society worked to strengthen community resilience and address climate change challenges. Key initiatives include rehabilitating community boreholes, training climate change champions and promoting climate-smart agriculture through sustainable land preparation and water conservation practices. The National Society also emphasized disability inclusion, conducting assessments to identify the barriers faced by persons with disabilities. These efforts aimed to build local capacity, raise climate change awareness and support environmentally sustainable livelihoods, highlighting the interconnectedness of climate, environment and social inclusivity.

### Disasters and crises

During this reporting period, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society made significant strides in disaster preparedness and response by establishing 10 inclusive disaster response committees, which included representation from persons with disabilities. These committees played a key role in emergency coordination, risk assessment, and public education on disaster awareness. The National Society focused on capacity building by training volunteers in cholera prevention and climate change adaptation, including the use of rain gauges for local rainfall analysis. Collaboration with government ministries and other organizations ensured timely and coordinated responses to health, hunger, and climate-related emergencies.

### Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society undertook several health and wellbeing initiatives, including cholera preparedness, immunization, and the establishment of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities. The National Society trained health staff, equipped volunteers with cholera response skills, and distributed water treatment supplies across five provinces. The National Society also carried out immunization project and improved sanitation infrastructure in schools and ensured access to safe drinking water and hygiene facilities, especially during cholera outbreaks and emergency operations.

## Migration and displacement

During this reporting period, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society strengthened its restoring family links (RFL) programme to address migration challenges through case follow-ups, new registrations, and searches for family reunification. The National Society focused on reuniting unaccompanied minors with their parents. It participated in regional and global migration coordination meetings, gaining insights and proposing strategies to improve services. The National Society also enhanced its capacity through FLA database training, workshops, and event tracing, including at the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show, to better support vulnerable populations and improve responsiveness to migrant communities' needs.

## Values, power and inclusion

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society made progress on protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) initiatives by promoting equality and safeguarding the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities (PWDs). The National Society conducted policy dissemination training in Harare for staff on topics such as protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and the IFRC code of conduct. It also conducted disability-friendly assessments through focus group discussions and interviews, identifying multiple barriers faced by PWDs.

It also conducted disability-friendly assessments through focus group discussions and interviews, identifying multiple barriers faced by PWDs, including physical, institutional, attitudinal, and communication challenges, to improve inclusivity in its programs.

## Enabling local actors

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society undertook several initiatives to enhance its development, focusing on strengthening both adult and youth structures across all provinces. By establishing youth structures at branch levels and recruiting volunteers from diverse and inclusive backgrounds, the National Society ensured active participation at every level. Workshops on volunteer management were conducted nationwide, alongside centralized training for community engagement and accountability (CEA) focal persons. The National Society also held meetings with public authorities to showcase its auxiliary role, sharing key documents such as the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and progress reports to strengthen humanitarian diplomacy efforts.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's commitment to accountability and organizational agility was demonstrated through various policies and training programs. Safety measures were embedded in accounting and motor vehicle policies, and staff were equipped with training on community engagement, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and safeguarding. Additionally, CEA and PGI training for focal persons reinforced inclusivity, ensuring that all interventions addressed the diverse needs of stakeholders and contributed to the National Society's overall accountability framework.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>    | <a href="#">Cholera outbreak</a>   |
| <b>MDR-CODE</b>             | MDRZW021   |
| <b>DURATION</b>             | 16 November 2023 to 31 December 2024   |
| <b>FUNDING REQUIREMENTS</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 4 million</li><li>• IFRC-Secretariat funding requirements: CHF 3 million</li></ul> |
| <b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>      | 550,455  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>LINK TO EMERGENCY APPEAL</b>        | <a href="#">Revised Emergency Appeal Cholera Outbreak</a>     |
| <b>LINK TO OPERATIONAL STRATEGY</b>    | <a href="#">Revised Operational Strategy Cholera Outbreak</a> |
| <b>LINK TO LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b> | <a href="#">Operations Update No.3</a>                        |

The first cholera outbreak of 2023 started on 12 February 2023 in Chegutu town in Mashonaland West Province. To date, suspected and confirmed cases have been reported in 63 districts in all 10 provinces of the country since the beginning of 2023. As of 26 May 2024, a cumulative total of 34,276 suspected cholera cases, 87 laboratory confirmed deaths, 628 suspected cholera deaths, and 4,216 laboratory-confirmed cases were reported. The outbreak has now spread to more than the 17 traditional cholera hotspot districts of Buhera, Chegutu, Chikomba, Chimanimani, Chipinge, Chitungwiza, Chiredzi, Harare, Gokwe North, Marondera, Mazowe, Shamva, Mutare, Murehwa, Mwenezi, Seke, and Wedza. The crude mortality rate remains above 1.8 per cent.

The outbreak has since caused panic among the entire Zimbabwean population as economic and social activities were slowed down, especially in Harare, which declared a state of emergency due to the surge in cases. The health system has been overstretched by the high number of hospitalised cases, depleting most of the drugs and supplies and further straining the already overburdened hospital personnel. Grief and trauma caused by the disease have affected the sick, their guardians, as well as staff and volunteers supporting the response. The capacity of the Ministry of Health and Childcare has been stretched due to the high number of admissions, need for increased human resources to manage the growing caseload. There was a disruption in community health care system where primary health care - which is responsible for ensuring that community members adhere to water, sanitation, and hygiene practices - was strained. There was a need to mobilize and train more volunteers to support tasks shifting from medical personnel to volunteers, as well as support in increasing the awareness of risks and treatment.

### Short description of emergency operational strategy

Through this revised strategy, the operation continues to target Matabeleland-South, Manicaland, Mashonaland-Central, Midlands Province, Masvingo and Mashonaland-West, working in 12 districts. It is also responding to emerging needs per request from the Government. These targeted areas were identified in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and Childcare (MOHCC). This operation also continues to target common cholera hotspots and urban communities as well as districts with increased cases and deaths, and high case fatality rate (CFR). This includes districts with high cholera risk factors contributing to new cases and districts with high numbers of cases per day as well as districts where CTU capacity is limited due to high caseload, acting immediately upon notification of a case in a new area. Districts with many cases in a specific area are also being prioritized. Deployment of BORTs to the targeted districts are guided by data and by weekly analysis of trends.

Between the period of [October 2023 to May 2024](#), the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society assisted more than 450,000 people in the country under the cholera emergency response. The National Society's areas of intervention under this emergency response include support for livelihoods of the affected people, multi-purpose cash assistance in various provinces, health and care initiatives, WASH and PGI interventions, migrant support and risk reduction, climate adaptation and recovery.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, under the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's climate-smart resilience project which aims to address climate change-related challenges, the National Society worked on initiatives such as the rehabilitation of community boreholes,

trained community individuals as climate change champions, and carried out training on climate-smart agriculture. These activities, which were carried out under the Cholera outbreak emergency appeal, focused on strengthening community resilience and equip communities with the knowledge and skills to effectively disseminate climate change information and awareness. Under the climate-smart agriculture initiative, areas of intervention include land preparation methods to enhance soil health and water conservation, as well as good agricultural practices tailored to climate variability.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society, under its climate and environment initiatives, has also focused on disability and inclusion to ascertain the barriers and needs of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in multiple districts. The National Society recognizes the interconnectedness of climate, environment, and social inclusivity, which highlights the importance of holistic approaches in addressing challenges and promoting sustainable development.

Through these targeted training programmes and assessments, the National Society worked on building local capacity to address climate change impacts and promote sustainable development. The National Society aimed to contribute to strengthening community resilience and promote environmentally sustainable livelihoods in the face of climate variability.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's efforts under climate and environment to bolster community awareness about climate-related knowledge. This consisted of both financial and technical support to the National Society to enhance its efforts in climate-related initiatives.



## Disasters and crises

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

In 2023, two IFRC disaster response emergency funds (IFRC-DREF) were activated for two separate emergencies comprising [election preparedness](#) and [drought protocol](#).

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>       | <a href="#">Drought Early Action Protocol</a>  |
| <b>MDR-CODE</b>                | MDRZW020                                       |
| <b>EAP TIMEFRAME</b>           | 12 December 2022 to 30 November 2024           |
| <b>FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>      | CHF 549,318                                    |
| <b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>         | 21,000   |
| <b>LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b> | <a href="#">Drought Protocol latest update</a> |

The DREF allocation of CHF 549,318 supported the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to assisted approximately 21,000 people for households affected by drought. The National Society supported the targeted people with assistance such as multi-purpose cash assistance, livelihood support, and distribution of essential items.

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>NAME OF OPERATION</b>       | <a href="#">Zimbabwe Elections Preparedness</a>         |
| <b>MDR-CODE</b>                | MDRZW022  |
| <b>DURATION</b>                | 3 months (02 August 2023 to 30 November 2023)           |
| <b>FUNDING ALLOCATION</b>      | CHF 160,105   |
| <b>PEOPLE TARGETED</b>         | 10,000  |
| <b>LATEST OPERATION UPDATE</b> | <a href="#">Election Preparedness Operations Update</a> |

The DREF allocation of CHF 160,105 in August 2023 supported the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to assist approximately 10,000 people in preparation of possible instances of violence during the election. The National Society supported the targeted people over a three-month period with assistance such as protection, gender and inclusion interventions, distribution of first aid kits, coordination with communities under community engagement and accountability.

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

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society established 10 disaster response committees which include representation from persons with disabilities (PWDs) to ensure inclusive disaster management. These committees play a crucial role in disseminating information and coordinating response during emergencies. They further assist with developing disaster response plans and protocols, conducting risk assessments and vulnerability analyses and educate the public on disaster awareness.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society focused on capacity building within the community, including training volunteers and committee members on disaster response strategies and protocols. The efforts of the National Society in 2023 have included initiatives such as the training of volunteers in Harare on cholera outbreak through reinforcement of protective hygiene behaviours and practices, deploying branch outbreak response team volunteers for enhancing community-level capacity for cholera prevention, treatment, and risk communication, and training of communities on climate change adaptation. Under the climate change adaptation training, the National Society set up community managed rain gauge for local analysis of rainfall patterns and the way to interpret seasonal forecast to derive actions from the forecast.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross collaborated with government line ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Child Care in fighting health-related emergencies, the Department of Social Development in the fight against hunger, and other organizations such as Oxfam in the fight against cholera. Resources and support are mobilised to ensure timely and coordinated response to disasters. Other coordination specific to National Society initiatives include coordination with the meteorological services department for seasonal forecasts, early warning and installation of rain gauges, AGRITEX on community training on climate smart agriculture, UN agencies on [anticipatory actions](#), and other actors. Furthermore, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society collaboratively worked in the development of the National Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan for 2023/24.

Under its cholera emergency response, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society also provided [multi-purpose cash assistance](#) for households affected by the disease outbreak so that the needs of affected people could be met in a timely manner.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provides both technical and financial support to the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society for its initiatives under disasters and crises. IFRC mechanisms such as the disaster response emergency fund (DREF) and the IFRC emergency appeals are activated in response to emerging and ongoing disasters and crises in the country to ensure quick and effective response.



## **Health and wellbeing**

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

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's initiatives under health and wellbeing included interventions such as preparedness for cholera, immunization project, and rehabilitation and establishment of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities. Under the [global pilot programmatic partnership](#) between the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and IFRC, as well as coordination with UNICEF and Oxfam, the National Society worked on preparedness for cholera in 5 provinces which include both rural and urban areas. Similarly, under the cholera emergency response, the National Society carried out training of health staff, provided households with water treatment chemicals, and equipped volunteers with cholera response skills.

Under the National Society's immunization project to improve vaccination rates for both COVID-19 and childhood diseases, the National Society reach approximately 50,000 people through risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and approximately 30,000 with vaccination support. The project supports the Ministry of Health and Child Care for immunization in harder-to-reach localities.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society, in this reporting period, worked on ensuring safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness in communities during the relief and recovery phases of emergency operations. Under the ZERO hunger project, the National Society focused on improving sanitation and hygiene infrastructure in schools and constructed toilets and handwashing facilities to enhance the health and wellbeing of students and teachers. Under the IFRC DG-ECHO PPP project, the National Society carried out water treatment by distributing water guards, aqua tabs, and other water treatment supplies to communities affected by cholera outbreaks. Through oral rehydration points across Harare, the National Society worked to ensure that communities have access to safe drinking water during emergency situations.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society in its efforts under disaster management, climate change adaptation and community resilience. It also supports the National Society in collaborative efforts and emphasizes the importance of inclusive policies and practices, ensuring that vulnerable groups are considered in health interventions. Initiatives such as the disaster response committees and [community-based disaster risk reduction](#) strategies are part of the broader IFRC support for comprehensive health and wellbeing outcomes in communities.



The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's trained first aid responders were deployed throughout the country during the electioneering process in 2023. (Photo: Zimbabwe Red Cross Society).



## Migration and displacement

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society engaged in various activities related to restoring family links (RFL) programme management, capacity building and response to migration challenges. Some of the activities undertaken by the National Society in 2023 include case follow-ups and new registrations to monitor the progress of ongoing cases and initiating new searches to reunite families. The National Society collaborated with organizations such as the UNHCR, Childline, and the Department of Social Welfare to identify unaccompanied minors and provided assistance for their reunification with parents. It participated in virtual regional and global migration coordination meetings to gain insights into diverse migration needs, identify gaps in services and propose strategies for comprehensive response and coordination.

The National Society participated in training sessions such as FLA database training, regional workshops and resource mobilization workshops. These activities aimed to enhance skill in case management and database utilization. The National Society undertook proactive measures such as event tracing for minors at the Zimbabwe Agricultural

Show and participated in Red-Safe information sessions which contributed to enhancing service quality, awareness, and responsiveness to migrant communities' needs. These activities overall were targeted at addressing migration challenges and provide effective support to vulnerable populations, especially in the context of family reunification and assistance to unaccompanied minors.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provides the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society with financial and technical support for its activities and interventions under migration and displacement. The National Society is supported in its initiatives to increase its engagement with stakeholders to highlight its interventions under migration and also to bring to attention the needs of migrant population for more targeted services in the future.

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The ICRC supports the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society under the restoring family links (RFL) programmes.



## **Values, power and inclusion**

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

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society promote protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) initiatives aimed at addressing vulnerabilities and promote equality within communities. Under the PGI framework, the National Society focuses on safeguarding the rights and dignity of vulnerable populations, including women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities. A policy dissemination training was conducted in Harare for National Society staff on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), fraud and anti-corruption, whistle-blower policy, and the IFRC code of conduct.

Under the National Society's efforts in 2023 to make its initiatives more inclusive, the National Society carried out disability-friendly assessments through focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KII). The findings show that PWDs deal with multiple barriers which include physical, institutional, attitudinal, and communication barriers.

### **IFRC network joint support**

The IFRC provides technical expertise, funding support, and strategic guidance to the National Society to enhance its programmes related to values-based approaches, gender quality, diversity and social inclusion. Collaborative projects address systemic barriers, promotes community resilience, and advocate for policy changes that advance human rights and promote inclusivity.

## **ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS**



## **Strategic and operational coordination**

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

#### **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.

#### **Movement coordination**

The South Sudan Red Cross 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** carries out humanitarian activities in Zimbabwe and other countries in the region. Using innovative tools, its humanitarian action aims to address the humanitarian consequences of armed violence and migration; to support authorities in tracing missing persons, to reconnect separated families through restoring family links (RFL); to strengthen respect for and compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and international standards of policing; and to improve the capacity of the Zimbabwe Red Cross to be the first responder to natural and man-made disasters. Through humanitarian diplomacy, the ICRC in Southern Africa builds support for humanitarian action, norms and values amongst policy and decision-makers.

### External coordination

Due to its unique mandate in Zimbabwe and ongoing humanitarian interventions, the Zimbabwe Red Cross sustains unmatched institutional relationships with the authorities at all levels. This facilitates the rapid initiation of activities and promotes the continuous involvement of relevant agencies in the monitoring and coordination of its work. The National Society continuously coordinates with relevant technical agencies, such as the Department of Civil Protection, the Drought Relief Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health and Childcare, the Ministry of Public Service and Social Welfare, the Meteorological Services Department, and the District Development Fund under the Offices of the President and Cabinet. In times of emergency, the Department of Civil Protection coordinates the response at all levels. The National Society typically supports rapid joint assessments and the development of selection criteria for targeting, in coordination with communities and civil protection groups. UN OCHA organizes emergency meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, of which the IFRC is a member. The Zimbabwe Red Cross is an active participant in the food security and water, sanitation, and hygiene working groups, which are activated at cluster level when needed. With regard to the current food security crisis, the World Food Programme is the lead organization, and the National Society has been a co-lead since the preparedness phase of responses. There are monthly meetings with all other humanitarian partners in the country, coordinated by the Government. The National Society also actively participates in the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster, along with other partners and UN agencies. The National Society also collaborates with other international actors, including UN agencies such as UNICEF, for humanitarian interventions and other projects.



## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society carried out multiple initiatives aimed at the development of the National Society. In its efforts to ensure that adult and youth structures are properly constituted and functionally active across all levels and provinces, the National Society implemented the activity in southern and northern provinces and put in place youth structures across all branches where most volunteers are youth. The National Society's recruitment took into consideration diverse and inclusive backgrounds and organized workshop on volunteer management for all provinces. The National Society also carried out a centralized training for community engagement and accountability (CEA) focal persons and carried out a meeting of National Society development coordinators.

### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** supports the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society in its efforts under National Society development. IFRC mechanisms such as the capacity building fund ([CBF](#)), the IFRC National Society investment alliance ([NSIA](#)), and the [Empress Shoken Fund](#) are utilised for National Society development initiatives.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, under its humanitarian diplomacy efforts, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society conducted meetings with public authorities showcasing its auxiliary role by disseminating key documents such as the National Society 2021-2025

Strategic Plan and other reports. Update meetings were also held to appraise the public authorities on progress made by the National Society in its project implementation.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supports the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's efforts under humanitarian diplomacy by enhancing its stakeholder engagement to showcase the National Society's interventions and to leverage its presence as the first responder during emergencies.



## **Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)**

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

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's efforts under accountability and agility in 2023 is multifaceted. First and foremost, the National Society ensures a safe and conducive working environment for each employee and ensures the safety-response capacity of the staff through training and orientations. The National Society's accounting policy and motor vehicle policy takes into consideration safety measures to be put in place. The Human Resources policy of the National Society include in-house workshops and academic support for studies, while building the knowledge of staff and volunteers on CEA, PSEA, safeguarding, among others.

The National Society has 26 policies ensuring integrity, an employee code of conduct, and a National Society constitution to ensure that employees are well-guided. In case of integrity issues, recommended steps are followed to ensure accountability. The National Society, furthermore, has carried out a number of CEA and PGI training of focal persons that the National Society remains inclusive and that its interventions take into consideration the diverse needs of its stakeholders, its targeted people, and the overall development of the National Society's accountability framework.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** provides both technical and financial support to the National Society in its efforts to ensure that the National Society is accountable and its policies to ensure integrity are updated. Support consists of development of relevant policies, engaging with the National Society on inclusive programming, and other relevant areas related to accountability.



**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 Zimbabwe 2023 Financial Report](#)

**Note:** For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see [MDRZW021](#), [MDRZW020](#) and [MDRZW022](#).

- [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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